

BAY AREA REPORTER

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TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019

A NEWS ANALYSIS

Do Anti-Gay Police Belong on Gay Cases?

Polk St. Murder Investigator Condemns Gays in Column

by Allen White

The homicide inspector assigned to investigate the "fag-bashing" murder of John O'Connell is an endorser of a column which denounces Gays published this month in the police newspaper.

In a column signed by Inspector Ed Erdelantz and five others, the Cops for Christ attack police hiring of Gays, Gay sensitivity training for police, and indicate that Gays belong in prison. They attack the appointment of the Rev. Jim Sandmire of Metropolitan Community Church as a police chaplain, saying it "humiliated" the police and is an "embarrassment." (For text of column, see adjacent box.)

Investigators are hoping for a break soon in the O'Connell case, and no one close to the case has questioned Erdelantz's official conduct. But the condemnation of Gays by a police officer

assigned to a Gay-related murder has raised questions of appropriateness. Should anti-Gay cops work on fag-bashing cases where cooperation from the Gay community is important?

That question comes amidst a wider context. Erdelantz and other "Cops for Christ" are becoming more public and vocal in their denunciation of Gays. Not only newspaper columns, but public speeches — like one scheduled next week in San Diego — are being used by the Cops for Christ to publicly condemn San Francisco Gays, including Gay and Lesbian police officers.

Among those calling for a review of police assignment policy is Supervisor Richard Hongisto. Hongisto is the former San Francisco Sheriff and himself was once a police officer.

Aware of the homophobic column, Hongisto said he plans to discuss with Police Chief Con Murphy the subject of how officers are assigned to sensitive

(Continued on page 4)

★ ★ ★ Police Arrest One Suspect; Three Flee

LATE BULLETIN - San Francisco police announced late yesterday they had arrested one of the four young men they believe attacked John O'Connell July 29 on California Street near Polk. O'Connell later died of head injuries.

Lawrence Wilson, attorney for the police department, said the suspect was arrested in Vallejo, where all four lived. The other three fled toward Oregon and were being trailed by police late Wednesday.

★ ★ ★

Contradicts Court Order

Immigration Makes New Push To Keep Gays Out of the U.S.

'You Cannot Be Allowed Into the U.S. If You Are Homosexual,' Says Border Brochure

by George Mendenhall

The federal Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) is defying a decision in the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and demanding that all visitors, students, immigrants, and others entering the United States declare if they are homosexual.

The court ruled in the *Carl Hill v. INS* case earlier this year that a person cannot be denied admission on homosexual grounds unless the person has had a certificate from the Public Health Service declaring that he or she is Gay.

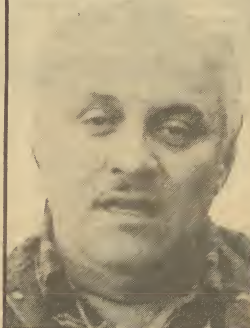
Since the Public Health Service refused to issue such certificates, even openly Gay people were to be admitted — until the last few weeks.

(Continued on page 2)



Split Inning. Who's on First? Augusta Wind — one of the softballers at the Switch Hitters Ball, where everybody scored. Allen White touches all the bases on page 3. (Photo: Rink)

he's
back!
Mr. Marcus
On Page 29



Berkeley Schools Okay First Partners Plan

by John Wetzl

Breaking suit with the City Council, the Berkeley Citizens Action (BCA) party-dominated Berkeley School Board last week passed for its employees the very same "live-in lovers" plan that the City Council had delayed a week before. The vote was 5-0 with one abstention.

The School Board approved the very same document the council voted to delay, in fact, noting only that references to the "City of Berkeley" be abridged for the "Berkeley School System." The board will conduct a second vote on a finalized draft of the plan on September 18, which is a formality, according to sponsoring director Ethel Manheimer.

The board hopes the Aug. 1 vote will serve to equalize pay status between marrieds and unmarrieds. The plan was basically designed by Berkeley's Human Relations and Welfare Commission (HRWC) to address salary inequities toward Lesbians and Gays who pay into the system but get no returns in fringe benefits because they cannot legally marry.

The plan automatically qualifies registered couples for all job benefits previously offered to married couples only. The policy is the first public record drafted anywhere in the United

States to take Gay and Lesbian relationships into account. It also provides for the only publicly chartered registry for same-gender couples anywhere in the world.

Similar forms of this policy have, in other cities, been attacked as destructive of the institution of marriage. It has been opposed by religious leaders and by right-wing activists in San Francisco and elsewhere. But the majority on the Berkeley board cited equity and fairness in their decision to go ahead with

(Continued on page 17)

IN THIS ISSUE

The band played on in memory of its founder, Jon Sims, at mammoth Grace Cathedral event p. 11

Falwell denies saying MCC'ers are 'brute beasts' — but it's there on videotape p. 15

Reclaiming the Gay share of Paris literary salon society in the 1930s — Mike Hippler interviews Sam Steward . . p. 20

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announces the opening of the
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Immigration Pushes to Keep Gays Out of U.S.

(Continued from page 1)

The Justice Department, evidently determined to exclude Gay people, has now ordered the health service to begin to issue certificates to any person who declares he or she is homosexual. Although the question, "Are you a homosexual?" is not to be asked of everyone, it is to be asked of a person who openly declares his or her homosexuality. The INS is to detain a person until the health service has time to ask the question and issue the certificate.

INS regulations specify that a person who has a "psychopathic personality" or is a "sexual deviate" shall not be admitted into this country.

Leonard Graff, attorney for National Gay Rights Advocates in San Francisco, has now discovered that visitors and immigrants to this country are being given an INS "General Information" pamphlet which includes this information: "The following are reasons that you cannot be allowed in the United States. You are required to tell the consular officer or immigration officer if any of these reasons apply to you. You cannot be allowed into the United States if (reason number four) you are mentally ill or homosexual."

The courts have ruled that a person's declaration that he or she is Gay is not grounds for exclusion, but the INS is telling visitors and aliens to the contrary. Graff said that this applies not just to immigrants but includes visitors to this country on leisure trips, Olympic athletes, and business travelers.

"Who knows what is going on?" said Graff, who has become an authority on Lesbian and Gay immigration policies. "We hear that authorities are asking people entering this country if they are Gay on the Mexican border and at airports. Some of these people are being denied admission — without being aware of their rights — and are returning to their countries. This is part of a continuing problem with Immigration that is unresolved."

National Gay Rights Advocates recently won a lawsuit



Carl Hill (Photo: Rink)

against the INS involving Jaime Chavez, a Mexican clothing designer. He arrived at San Francisco airport with women's dresses he was to show to clients here and was detained and harassed by authorities.

Carl Hill was a more widely publicized example. The Gay British journalist attempted entrance at the airport here to report on the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day parade in 1979. He was detained when an INS official objected to his "Gay Pride" button. Hill stated that

he was Gay. National Gay Rights Advocates represented Hill in court and was victorious in 1982 when U.S. District Court Judge Robert Aguilar ruled that the Public Health Service must issue a certificate declaring that a person is Gay before Immigration could bar that person's entry. The health service said it would no longer issue such certificates.

Attorney Mary Dunlap, who also assisted Hill with his legal problems, said, "People try to enter here all the time who do not know their rights. Some have language problems and are scared of the authorities. Some are excluded because they do not understand or do not know how to answer the questions. The government wants to create the illusion that it is only after 'trouble makers' but that is not true. Lesbians and Gay people are being humiliated and illegally questioned."

Dunlap said that Congress continues to refuse to deal intelligently with visitation and immigration problems. For this reason, attorneys continue to seek remedy in the courts.

Graff said that National Gay Rights Advocates is evaluating what step it can take next in its continuing battles with the federal immigration service. He said the legal group may sue the INS to further determine how it can continue to state one policy while, in practice, ignoring its own policy.

G. Mendenhall

'Voice' Silenced as Publisher Raises Cash

**Weekly Misses Third Issue;
Office Open, Hopes Remain**

by George Mendenhall

California Voice, which would have celebrated its fifth year of publication next month, has discontinued operation. Publisher John Van Heusden said he will continue to maintain an office while he attempts to raise enough money to pay off debts and begin publication again. He says local businesses owe him \$30,000 for advertising.

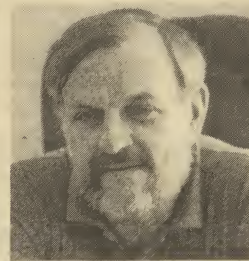
"Most of these people are good for the money," Van Heusden said. "I do not believe that Gay people fail to pay their bills any more than straights do." In some cases he says he will have to go to Small Claims court. The publisher does not use the services of a collection agency.

Van Heusden said he has few debts "but not many" — and that they are minor compared to that which is owed to him. He added, "I would be laughed out of court if I tried to file bankruptcy because there are so many accounts receivable." The publisher, relaxed and philosophical, believes "the money will eventually come in."

Activist Paul Hardman started the Voice as a bi-weekly and added a second bi-weekly, Vector, earlier this year. The publication was circulated for some time in Southern California. Van Heusden became publisher at that time, dropping Vector and making Voice a weekly. It ceased publication three weeks ago.

Hardman said he could not tell what Van Heusden would do now. He said he only sold the name California Voice and the deal did not include any equipment.

He called Van Heusden "elusive" and inferred that he was not in close communication



John Van Heusden (Photo: Rink)

with him. Hardman said he has offered facilities to the Voice's former editor, Bob Lynch, but "I would want everything in writing." Former publisher Hardman said, "I wanted to produce a newspaper that would be an alternative when I started it in 1979. I felt we should not talk down to the readers — communicating to people on the highest level. Now we are missing deadlines — for the first time."

The Bay Area is losing another Gay publication. The Advocate has moved its editorial offices from San Mateo to the exclusive Southern California seaside resort of Malibu. Insiders report that Advocate founder David Goodstein is building a new publication office for the magazine near his Malibu home.

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Curve Ball or Curvy Ball? Either Way It's a Real Hit

**Switch Hitters Ball Gets the Big Butch Guys
Out of the Locker Room, Into the Dressing Room**

by Allen White

Billy McCruter of the Kokpit's softball team won first place at last Saturday night's Switch Hitters Ball. The third annual event was presented as a fundraiser for the Shanti Project by the Gay Softball League. The event has absolutely no artistically redeeming features. Its only claim for recognition is that it is one of the most fun events presented in the Gay community during the year. If the Closet Ball is hardball, the Switch Hitters Ball is softball.

The way the whole thing works is that real softball players appear on stage representing their teams. This year there were 13 contestants. They all look and act like athletes. Collectively they would pass in a locker-room deodorant commercial. The individuals are trouped past the audience in the direction of emcee Bob Docca. Docca is the commissioner of the Gay Softball League and in black tie looks like Gig Young in *They Shoot Horses, Don't They?*

Then they close the curtains, turn off the air conditioning and give the contestants an hour to transform themselves into drag queens. They also have intermissions. Most of those attending the event were athletes. The number one drink was Bud Light and orange juice. They ran out of orange juice. Gay events never run out of beer.

During the hour change-over time, the ball presented a one-act play called *Looking for Mr. Crowbar*. The cast included

Scott Mize, J.B. Saint-Leger, Brad Parks, Joey Loza, John Hammett, Tom Vindeed and Ray Howard. They never found "Mr. Crowbar," but the case was a strong stimuli to a healthy beverage sale throughout their performance. The performance was such that most couldn't believe their eyes, yet were too curious to not get involved. Beach Blanket Bingo it was not, funny it sure was.

Following another intermission, at which time they opened a five-foot window to allow the several hundred in attendance to breathe air, the show got down to serious business.

The Switch Hitters Ball presented its "lady-like entrants." Backstage life was a frenzy. One butch player screamed, "Can nail polish dry in ten minutes?" The reply: "No, bitch, but you will get over it." Life backstage at a drag show is not a pretty sight: Wigs waiting to go on taped back heads. Very strange indeed.

The first contestant was named December. December was a sultry number whose real name is December Wright, representing the Rawhide II. Next came Adelaide, actually John David Ferguson from the Village. He had the audience screaming as his two accomplices did a fantastically creative takeoff on every drag show. They threw off all their jewels, all their furs and parodied the whole idea of a drag event. Wally Rutherford, the producer of the Closet Ball, watched and roared with amusement.

Chaps did a wild leather number with steam. Their entrant, Miss Appeal, was interpreted by Tom Sprake. Robert Simpson representing the Pilsner Inn presented himself as Denise Williams. It was cute!

Steve Dryburgh proved that Ethel Merman is not dead, but only a softball player. Representing Cafe San Marcos, he appeared out of a coffin singing "Everything's Coming Up



Who's On First? Just one of the questions raised by softballers in "Looking for Mr. Crowbar" at the Switch Hitters Ball. (Photo: Rink)

Roses." The group picked up second prize for the night.

Mike Fitten pulled the rowdy crowd to absolute silence as he turned to the crowd and sang. No records or lip synch for this guy, he used his own voice. He was effective enough for the judges to award him the third prize for his superb effort.

To the music of Gladys Knight and the Pips, Billy McCruter entered with a group to recreate the group on stage. His tasteful presentation and stage manner won him first prize. McCruter said later he was doing something he used to

have fun doing back in Birmingham, Alabama.

While the judges compiled the winners, the Gay Softball League presented a check to the Shanti Project for \$1,450. Bobbi Reynolds, a person with AIDS, accepted. He commented on the ongoing support by the GSL for AIDS projects. The Gay Softball League is dedicated to helping their community and they took the night to point with pride to their fundraising efforts in recent months for the canned goods project at the AIDS Foundation, Ward 5B at San Francisco General and the Shanti Project.

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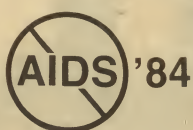
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Scene of the Crime. Chelsea Square at California and Polk Streets. John O'Connell and Andy Woodward were walking from this corner east on California when attackers struck. (Photo: Rink)

Anti-Gay Police on Gay Cases

(Continued from page 1)

cases. He said he would strongly urge the chief to review the policy relating to how officers were assigned to serious cases such as murder and rape.

Hongisto questioned how sensitive the officer can be, realizing his publicly stated views on homosexuality. "The policy," said Hongisto, "to assign an officer who is not sensitive to Gay issues to investigate a Gay murder is not well-formulated policy. We are a government of and by the people and we are here to serve all the people. That service must take into account the sensitivities of our public servants."

"It is not my intent to embarrass that particular officer but to encourage the department to formulate an intelligent policy," Hongisto felt strongly enough to say that he would be "pleased to battle" on the severity of this issue.

Supervisor Hongisto charged the column was "an erosion of a sense of professionalism within the department." He said this type of material makes it hard for a police chief to properly administer his department. "This letter puts Chief Murphy in an awkward position," said Hongisto, "and in the future I want to see that strong steps will be taken to see this doesn't happen again."

The chief and his department may find themselves in an equally awkward position next Monday night. In San Diego, San Francisco robbery detail inspector Jim Higgins is scheduled to appear at a right-wing religious rally at the Midway Baptist Church.

There are four primary topics: homosexuality, abortion, teen drug use, and pornography. Members of the San Diego Padres baseball team are scheduled to appear and organizers anticipate a crowd that may exceed 2,000.

Rally organizer Rev. Dorman Owens told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the San Francisco police officer has been invited to "tell the truthful story of the homosexual takeover of the San Francisco Police Department." Owens also said the "infiltration of homosexuals in the schools and how they had public sex in

a 37-acre park in downtown San Francisco" would be discussed. He said he picked the nugget of information about Buena Vista Park from the CBS-TV 1980 show, "Gay Power, Gay Politics."

Owens said he believes that the "homosexual lifestyle" is wrong and "there should be laws against it . . . The punishment should be severe." How severe? Dorman Owens said, "I believe the crime is severe enough to warrant the death penalty."

Asked if he thought that type of statement might incite violence, he replied he would rather have a little violence as opposed to the apathetic condition he now believes exists. "Besides," he said, "didn't you watch the convention? All the violence came from the queers and the pro-crime people."

An aid to help Owens in his San Francisco anti-gay crusade is a 20-page booklet titled *The Tragedy of San Francisco — Don't Let It Happen In Your City*. In the booklet, Owens claims that San Francisco police officer Jim Higgins is one of those interviewed.

Also interviewed in the booklet and appearing at the San Diego rally is Rev. Chuck McIlhenny of the First Orthodox Presbyterian Church in San Francisco. McIlhenny was embroiled in a local controversy a few years back when he fired his organist for being Gay. (He still hasn't found an organist.)

McIlhenny continues to be outspoken in his views against homosexuality. McIlhenny said he found an inconsistency between the acceptance of Gays on the police force and attacks on the department because of an alleged act of rape and prostitution recently at the Rathskeller Restaurant. Prostitution, rape, and homosexuality are all lumped together in McIlhenny's book.

What then about murder? McIlhenny was asked if a homicide inspector who was against homosexuality could track down a murderer of a Gay person while putting aside his personal bias. McIlhenny reasoned that true professional police officers would be able to put aside their personal beliefs and do their work.

There is a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of the killer.

Police Commissioner Jo Daly, a Lesbian, said she is concerned for the trust and the communication which have built up between the Gay community and the police. "Trust is not expendable; it is erodible."

Jo Daly is one of five police commissioners and is, in effect, the boss of every police officer in San Francisco. This puts con-

straints on her ability to comment on individual officers. She said she thought the POA column reminded her of Anita Bryant.

Al Casciato, President of the Police Officers Association, said he was "saddened" by the story. But, he said, he gave full backing to the officers' right to express their point of view.

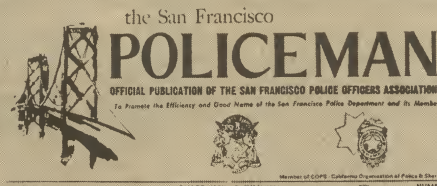
"Please believe me," he said, "it is one view and does not represent the Police Officers Association." Emphatically he restated, "These views are not representative of our association. Personally, I don't like to read this stuff."

Mike Pera, press spokesman for the San Francisco Police De-

partment, is also concerned about the column. He said that the officers don't cease being persons when they become police officers. They still have their First Amendment rights of free speech.

Pera did, however, become specific regarding the appearance of Officer Jim Higgins at the anti-Gay rally next Monday in San Diego. "He in no way speaks for the San Francisco Police Department," said Pera. "He cannot wear his uniform and he cannot imply that he represents the views or the position of the police department or the City of San Francisco." ■

A. White



ED. NOTE: The following is the complete text of the column which appeared in the July issue of *The San Francisco Policeman*:

by Jim Higgins, Robbery Detail

MEMORANDUM: MAY 2, 1984 & "Code of Ethics or Code of Silence?"

" . . . I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of police service. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession . . . law enforcement."

Ethics is moral principle; police under the code are moral agents of high principle. The origin of ethics reaches back centuries ago when it came off Mt. Sinai in the hands of Moses in the form of The Ten Commandments. Christian nations' foundations are structured on God's law to establish character in its people. Our country was founded under God, and San Francisco is part of it.

Civilization has a way of eroding what is God's Law and the exercise of man's intellect casts a shadow over truth. Man endeavors the sharp laws for his own use; twisting ethics into a two-edge sword, using whatever cutting side of the blade is convenient. In our Police Department we have that split personality of ethics.

There is no way we can condone the Rathskeller incident; bad judgment led the way to a breakdown in moral ethics. The night gave way to a disastrous chain of events and the Police Department turned bright red, and it won't go away until it is resolved.

We wonder what moral principles were taught to the recruits in the many weeks of training. We do know of the exposure to the homosexual lifestyle in which they seek approval as if they created a third gender. Moral principles are shouldered aside by man as he legislated penal code statutes out of existence; in turn violating God's law and nature's law, leaving a maze of contradictions to the new recruits.

Ambiguous ethics confuse moral principles, make for poor judgment and embarrassing situations happen.

Recently the SFPD has outdone itself in bad press with more complaints to Internal Affairs, and situations we won't even write about. When did it begin? How did it happen? Perhaps the eroding of ethics began with the former Chief's exhibition: a drink in one hand and "wonder whore" in the other — a role model with pictures in the paper to prove it!

The homosexual community with its own recruiting program ushering in a symbol of behavior falling short of moral standards. The screening process of new members with freedom from the once narrow restrictions. Arrest a prostitute on one side of the street; cross over to the other side and walk by a Club where, for a price, you can enter and carry on sexual deviations with the same gender — all made lawful by law.

The Police Chaplain is held in high esteem by men of the cloth, only to be humiliated by the appointment of a homosexual chaplain. What circumstances warranted this embarrassment?

The Pinochchio nose of the Police Officers Association probing into the chain of command about grievance clauses; leaving behind them a line of professional law enforcement personnel with crying towels. To have pride is to recapture a sense of value through moral principle. Without it the foundation of the Department will continue to leak sand.

There is no compromise on the Laws of God that this country has been founded on. Twist it, step on it, lie about it, turn away from it, ethics is still moral principle, and our Department will be judged by it. Wisdom comes by the fear of God, not by the mores of political puppets who feather their nest in humanistic beliefs.

This is not one man's opinion, but comes from all men and women of COPS FOR CHRIST, and a multitude of others whose moral standards rise above "situational ethics."

Jim Higgins, Inspector - Robbery Detail
Jim Crowley - Homicide
Ed Erdelantz - Homicide
Joe Mollo - P.A.L.
Dan Hampton - Academy
Ed Mateui - Rm. 400 - Investigations



Strike Settled. Labor unrest at Marcello's Pizza ends pickets on Castro Street. (Photo: Rink)

Everything's Cheesy at Marcello's Pizza

Castro Street Picketing Ends; Contract Gives Gay Funeral Leave

by George Mendenhall

Four months of picketing ended this week when Marcello's, a popular pizza chain, signed a union contract with the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Local #2. The agreement includes two special clauses for the Castro store. Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day is a paid holiday, and paid funeral leave is granted when a "significant other" dies. The latter is a first for San Francisco union agreements.

The agreement was reached after the employees escalated four months of educational picketing and actually went on a strike July 26. Business slumped. Within a few days, owner Brad McFadin agreed to negotiate with the union. The contract was signed after only two days of deliberation — without an official National Labor Relations Board unionization vote being held.

"We now may be the highest paying pizza parlor with the best benefits in the country," owner Brad McFadin stated. "We hope we can now have an era of cooperation. We are glad it is all over and I wish to thank our many loyal customers and employees who stuck with us during this period. We never dismissed any employee involved in the dispute and every one is back to work."

Unfortunately, McFadin stressed, "The cost of the pizza may go up to meet our new \$140,000 output for wages and benefits."

The contract becomes effective immediately. It included a substantial pay increase, employer-paid health benefits, additional paid holidays, and union grievance procedures. Specific details were not released by the parties involved.

"Once we were able to address what was important to the workers," union business agent Kevin O'Connor stated, "we were able to come together well."

Milk Boycott Voted For Stores Strike

The Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club voted unanimously at its July 24 general membership meeting to boycott all Macy's and Emporium-Capwell stores until the labor dispute between these stores and Local 1100 Department Store Employees Union is resolved.

A large percentage of the stores' customers are Gay men and Lesbians. The Milk Club now urges people to shop elsewhere for the duration of this strike/lock-out.

"We are proud to support the

Both sides never get everything they want but that is the art of getting a good contract. It is tremendous.

O'Connor had considerable praise for the persistent workers: "They stuck together and took a risk. They will now reap the benefits. The Marcello's workers are a great bunch of people. It speaks well of management that they hire such fine people. Everyone actually gained respect for each other in this situation and it worked for the good of all — management and the workers."

Owner McFadin, who is Gay, said earlier that he was proud that he had established a business that has over 55 employees — most of them Lesbians and Gay men. He stated that the firm had employee relations problems when he began to expand to other outlets beyond his Castro store last year. He said he may have been negligent so hired an employee relations aide, Dean Freedman, when the pickets began in March. McFadin also hired a nationally known anti-union law firm as a consultant.

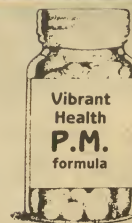
The owner said he offered better pay and employee benefits than other "fast food" outlets. Employees complained, however, that because of the big turn-over in personnel, many employees did not enjoy the benefits — some of which accrued only after six months of employment.

current struggle of Local 1100 for a fair and just contract settlement. Our club has always stood for and acted on a commitment to achieve and maintain the human rights of all people in our society. We strongly believe that one very basic human right is the right to organize a union in one's workplace and to receive good wages and benefits in an environment characterized by decent working conditions. Like Local 1100 members and their families and friends, we also reject management-proposed strike-backs!" said John Mehring, Political Action Chair. ■

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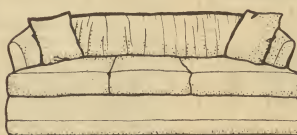
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VOL. XIV NO. 32 AUGUST 9, 1984

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VIEWPOINT

Stand By A Friend: Re-Elect Senator Marks

There comes a time when we must stand up and be counted when it comes to old friends. For too many years one of the good friends of our city, State Senator Milton Marks, has always been just that — a good friend.

Two years ago, we asked the Senator not to run against Congressman Phil Burton. The reason was that we, as a community, could not afford to lose Burton's seniority and awesome political base that his seniority brought with it. This year, the reverse is true. We cannot afford to lose Senator Marks' seniority in the California Senate.

Milton Marks, at times, is a thorn in the side of the Republican Party hierarchy, as he doesn't always vote the party line. Instead, like too few politicians, he votes the wishes of his constituency. Another tremendous plus for Milton Marks is his availability. I know of no other elected official in state government who always returns a phone call or who helps to solve constituent problems so expeditiously.

To list all the accomplishments of Senator Marks in this column would be impossible, but to say he has always been there when we needed him sums up the man very well.



Senator and Mrs. Marks in this year's Gay Freedom Day Parade, marchers since the very beginning. (Photo: Rink)

To abandon one's political friends in these trying times is to commit political suicide. I have heard too many Democratic elected officials extol the virtues — as well as the needed vote — of Senator Marks when they had been down to the wire and needed his help. Whether it's getting up the votes along with Sen. Robert for AIDS funding, or fighting alongside Assemblyman Art Agnos for passage of AB-1, he has always been mindful of the needs of his constituents.

I have never voted a strict party line and I urge my fellow Democrats in this case to vote for a proven friend and say thank you at the same time for all that he has done for all of us.

Bob Ross

LETTERS

Insecurity

★ Jim Cvitanich has no right to demand that the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence stop their public, political activism (which has hardly been "lately") any more than anyone should insist his "Men Behind Bars" revue to raise funds for the Shanti Project should be aborted, because of a cheap, paranoid fear that "the national mass media" might turn these events into a "negative" image of our community.

Clearly, people who want to change what we are, to impress the Press, are psychologically insecure. *We are what we are!* The Sisters are a part of our diverse, Gay, subcultural life here in San Francisco. Their freedom to exist and demonstrate, all honorable and civil-minded Gay people proudly defend.

Jim Cvitanich has yet to develop a mature understanding that *all* voices for Gay Liberation share the same franchise to be heard, however "tired" he may subjectively believe their "act" to be. In fact, *his act is tired*. In 1969, the men-in-drag at the Stonewall demonstrated for two days. They did *not* have the full support of Gays in Greenwich Village. I remember one of their banners read, "Hey, Butch, where are you, when we need you?" It made the front page of *The New York Times*. So, *not* supporting the Sisters is a very tiresome attitude. It does not necessarily make those with a Jim-Cvitanich-mentality "butch" or exempt them from being called "dizzy queens," however.

The year before last the banner that led our parade called for "unity" to break the "chains" of oppression. So why can't Jim Cvitanich, who claims to be a former drama student, support "street theatre"? He doesn't think it's effective, does he?! The most effective, political leader we've ever had thought otherwise. Remember Harvey Milk? Our parades are "street theatre." The Stonewall became "street theatre." Harvey with his bullhorn was "street theatre." Harvey, the supervisor-dressed-as-a-clown, was "street theatre." The Falwell Exorcism was a very effective way of calling attention to our Gay anger, and the Sisters gave their most spectacular performance yet before an international television audience. Their satire defined who the freaks *really* are. God bless the Sisters!

Charles Harris
San Francisco

Intolerance

★ An answer to Jim Cvitanich's letter (*B.A.R.*, July 26):

I am a French photographer and I have been taking pictures of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence for the past three years, as a group and individually, in all places, events (Gay spots and tourist places, Fisherman's Wharf, downtown, Golden Gate Park) and I have measured the massive positive impact of their actions. Since Boom Boom ran for supervisor, the public reaction is stronger, and any of the Sisters is taken for BB when downtown (which in a way infuriates them and amuses them, too).

I have to remind Jim that in the Middle Ages in Europe groups of male actors disguised as nuns, priests, monks, and popes performed daily in village fairs, making fun of the (then) leading religion. I recently went to Venice, Italy, to photograph the carnival. There were dozens of nuns in drag (male and female) and priests kissing each other in front of the Saint Marco Cathedral, hoisting the red Communist flag. One could tell me it was carnival time. What about convention time? and Jerry Falwell's Middle Ages bigotry?

When the Gays first began picketing stores whose products Anita Bryant endorsed, no one paid much attention. When she was taken off the Florida televised orange juice ads nationwide, the public was saying to her, "We do not endorse your bigotry." We all have to take a stand somewhere in some point in order to be heard. If I am not wrong, Jim has appeared for the last months in a lot of Gay events and every time he

was photographed as a clean-cut leather dude (I like his look, and I am into leather, too). Would he have refused to let these pictures be released in a national "straight" newspaper? What is the impact of men in leather in general on the average U.S. citizen?

I am pretty sure it threatens "his" kids more than a nun in drag and as much, in my opinion, as a real nun in habit.

What about the national coverage of any Gay Day Parade? I haven't read any criticism about naked-assed men kissing each other in front of the TV viewers? What about the impact of dykes on bikes?

I don't want and I don't like to cast a stone in our own garden, but I would advise some of us to stop the war between Gays and queers. The U.S. civil rights movement had lost its sense of humor during the last 10 years of struggle. The Sisters have brought it back again with all the events they have staged for the last four years. They have been a cohesive force within the local Gay community.

Let's admit that if we want to be accepted as different by the so-called "straights," we have to learn to accept the differences of behaviors and opinions within our own community. One doesn't fight intolerance by being intolerant. Derision (like the exorcism) is one of the healthy answers.

J. B. Carhaix
San Francisco

Take a Rest

★ I would like to comment on the letters from Jim Cvitanich and Randy E. Tucker which appeared in your fine newspaper 7/26/84.

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence are indeed a public eyecore. They are truly giving the Gay community a bad name in the eyes of the world, through the TV media. I, like Mr. Cvitanich and Mr. Tucker, feel that they should give their act a well-deserved rest. We don't need this kind of public nonsense and, I might add, they do not speak for the Gay community.

Jim Stuart
San Francisco

Stop Fighting Ourselves

★ History has little to do with the actions of today. Days change as years do and as people do.

Don't you think it is time for change? A change that will work for us, not against us.

The reality of what one sees is the reality of what one will think. Just as the Sisters doing their stunt right in front of the Moral Majority conferences. It gave Falwell the chance to point his finger out the window and say, "See!"

I'm not saying that we should stop being ourselves. But I think we should stop fighting ourselves, stop letting people embarrass us for something that we're not.

We are not Gay Sisters, but Gay brothers fighting to be free Gay men.

Randy E. Tucker
San Francisco

The Black Cat

★ Your July 19 article by John Wetzl about the old former Black Cat Cafe brought back flaming hot memories to me. It was the gayest homosexual bar of all times.

The owner's name, however, you misspelled as "Sal" when really it was Sol Stewman. The Sol being short for Solomon. Like his namesake, Sol was also the greatest Solomon.

Sam Gidoin
San Francisco

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EXECUTIVE & EDITORIAL OFFICES: 1528 15th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103 TELEPHONES (415) 861-5019/861-7230
PUBLISHER: Bob Ross
NEWS EDITOR: Brian Jones
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR: Dianne Gregory
FINE ARTS EDITOR: George Heymont
POLITICAL EDITOR: Wayne Friday
OFFICE MANAGER: Michael Snyder

CAMERA: Aaron Calhoun
LAYOUT: Peter Keane
TYPESETTING: Chal Cochran, Tony Lindsey
PHOTOGRAPHERS: Rink, Robert Pruzan
AUDITOR/ACCOUNTANT: Robert J. Dern, C.P.A.



CONTRIBUTORS

Burney Allgood, Les Balmain, Michael Benzry, Philip Campbell, Jerry De Gracia, Jerry R. De Young, Leslie Ewing, Dug Figley, Chuck Forester, Wayne Friday, George Heymont, Mike Hippler, Frank J. Howell, T.J. Hughes, Peter Keane, Michael Lasky, Arthur Lazere, Charles Linebarger, George Mendenhall, Gene Miller, Nez Pas, Paul Reed, Dion B. Sanders, Marv. Shaw, Bernard Spunberg, Karl Stewart, Paul Trefzger, Tom Vindeed, Dick Walters, Steve Warren, Rick Weatherly, John Wetzl, Allen White, Keith White, Bob Woolhouse

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LETTERS

Who Cares?

★ On Sunday evening, July 29, a friend, John O'Connell, and I were attacked coming up California between Polk and Van Ness. It was the usual "motherfuckin' queer faggot" routine from four of the usual pretty straight-boy types that plague Polk making sure they weren't like the rest of the area showing everyone around, among themselves and especially themselves they were "real men" by verbally and physically attacking innocent Gays.

I was lucky, using verbal hysterics was left unscathed, my friend not so, John has died.

After a whole night at San Francisco General getting a curious but curt array of "What the heck are we supposed to do?" from police and hospital staff, I finally remembered about CUAV. Boy was I lucky!

Lost, alone, and about ready to crack I made it over to their office on Castro and was immediately introduced to one hell of a brother, Randy Schell. Not only was the case looked into from an organization shall we say with a bit more of a sympathetic outlook toward this sort of a senseless and outrageous act but I was given emotional support so very badly needed after something of this magnitude happens to you and one of your friends.

Hats off and thanks, Randy and everyone at CUAV. Keep up the good work!

I know now, if anyone asks "Who cares?" I, for one, can say these people really do!

Andy Woodward
San Francisco

Today's Kids: Tomorrow's Punks

★ In response to Thursday's article in the *Chronicle*: "Gay Attacked by Four Youths on Polk Street Dies of Injuries," I have had it up to my neck with your "beautiful" children — those wonderfully healthy, Christian reared and wholesome individuals of tomorrow. What type of parent would allow their children to run loose on the public streets and maim, disgrace, belittle and KILL innocent tax-paying citizens? Why are your kids so vicious, harmful, demeaning, and insulting these days? They have no manners, they're loud, vindictive, and are not Christians, in the true sense of the word. The electric chair is what they so richly deserve; but, before you boys are spared with your lives by our courts of justice, you should be turned loose in the GAY community for a few hours. Maybe we can save the taxpayers a goodly sum. An eye for an eye, so says the Bible. Hmm?

Phil Bennington
San Francisco

To Gov. Macho

★ Dear Governor: Recently you vetoed AB-1, which would have protected Gays from certain kinds of discrimination. You stated at the time that there was inadequate proof that Gays were discriminated against.

Last Sunday, a Gay man was brutally beaten to death by four men in a busy intersection of San Francisco. While they were splattering his brains all over the sidewalk, the assailants were calling the victim a "faggot." The man's wallet went untouched, so this was no simple robbing.

Can you honestly state that Gays are NOT singled out for abuse by certain members of our society? And, if our society produces such a large number of "fag-bashers," does it not also produce an equally large number of those who would intentionally deny jobs and housing to Gays? To deny it is to defy logic.

Those who would murder Gays by skull-crushings are no different than those who would murder by imposing starvation (no jobs) and exposure to the elements (no housing) upon all Gay people.

Clearly your veto of AB-1 was most ill-advised. Your message was clearly heard by those who wish death by any means to all Gays. Now, it is "one down, several million to go." The attacks against Gays are increasing as a direct result of your abandonment of protection against abuse of Gays.

Tell me, Macho Duke, is the Governorship that of "Executive" or of "Executioner"?

R. C. Bryant
San Francisco

Maine Murder

★ After hearing about the murder of Charles Howard over the radio on July 30, I had some thoughts which I would like to convey to your readers. Charles Howard was murdered by three teenagers, brutally assaulted, kicked, and thrown over a bridge, into water 20 feet below, knowing he could not swim:

Charles, when you looked up at those boots, kicking in your brains and guts, did you wonder if these were the storm troopers from Berlin, or were they your fellow beings from Bangor?

When your shattered body was being thrown into the water twenty feet below, did you think you would forgive them, like Jesus would, for they knew not what they were doing?

When your parents got the news, did they shed tears, or were they just relieved to have shed this burden of shame on their family name?

Some people are already saying your murderers

should be given special treatment — killing a faggot is not the same thing as killing a human being!

S. C. Andrew Chen
Redwood City

Gay (?) Funerals

★ After reading an article in the *B.A.R.* a few months ago regarding the Lambda Funeral Guild, I decided to get more information on the subject. Unfortunately, research disclosed two questionable facts which deterred my endorsement of the establishment.

The first is that the brochure lists Lambda Funeral Guild as a "close affiliate of the Neptune Society of Northern California." Research has shown that the two are extremely close, in reality Lambda Funeral Guild is just a branch office of the Neptune Society (not unlike the branch office of the Neptune Society in the Mission District to serve the special needs of the Hispanic peoples by staffing with persons of Hispanic origins). Isn't this just another case of a straight corporation whitewashing itself (in this case via doing business under another name and calling its branch a new corporation) to milk Gay money?

Second, why does the initial fee for Lambda Funeral Guild cost twenty-five dollars, when all other branches charge only twenty dollars as an initial fee? Does it cost us five dollars more to be Gay? Is this discrimination? You bet it is! In the forward of the brochure, Mr. Simpson states he has wanted to serve his Gay brothers and sisters, but in reality, it seems we are serving him at five dollars a clip! What do you and your readers think?

In closing I would like to say that I think Thomas Simpson should concern and focus more on GAY and less on PAY issues.

Ima Kee Pendagold
Novato, CA

Gays and Latin America

★ In the June 28 issue of *Bay Area Reporter*, there appeared a review by Steve Warren of *Improper Conduct*, a film which attempts to document human rights abuses in Cuba. In the review, the film's cinematographer is quoted as saying that his movie "... forces right-wing people, because of their hatred of Castro, to examine the Gay question in a positive way." We find this to be a dangerous piece of faulty logic. The right wing clearly hates Castro, but don't be misled — they hate us every bit as much. They may very well use the information in this film and exploit our oppression for their own ends, but Reagan, Falwell, Schlafly, et al., will never willingly be our allies.

Earlier in the review, Warren states that "... the film should make you re-examine your political feelings toward the Cuban leadership, and perhaps the rest of Latin America." [Emphasis added.]

We certainly do not condone the oppression of Lesbian and Gay people in Cuba nor anywhere else. But we should not fall into the all-too-common trap of lumping all of Latin America together. The Central American countries are not Cuba. There are different cultures, different histories, and the revolutions taking place there are happening in a different time — a time when there exists a vocal international Lesbian and Gay movement. Many of us have loudly supported self-determination for Central America through solidarity work, financial and material aid, and our labor. Our work has borne fruit: In response to our support, consciousness about the Lesbian and Gay struggle continues to grow within these national movements. Example: The government of Nicaragua rejects the systematic oppression of Lesbians and Gay men. (Can we say the same about our own federal government?) Example: Casa El Salvador Farabundo Marti and the Association of El Salvadorean Women, among others, work in conjunction with our group on numerous projects and events.

It is a fact of history that revolution will happen. When conditions become so brutal and exploitative that they are intolerable, people will rise up and seize the power to rule themselves. Lesbians and Gay men should well understand this burning desire for self-determination. Rather than rejecting a people's right to strike out against an oppressive status quo, we should be in support of their struggle and simultaneously be vocal about our own.

A statement made by CRIR's Tom Paretti in the July 5 *Bay Area Reporter* also calls for a response. Paretti says that he is "offended at leftist contingents (in the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade) that support countries that oppress Gay people." We want to make it clear to Paretti and others that this is precisely what the Anti-Intervention Contingent did not do. Representatives from Central America were there by our sides in mutual support, and they will be marching in solidarity with us in the upcoming National March for Lesbian/Gay Rights. This we see as an indication that we can reach our stated goal to effect change in consciousness so that Lesbians and Gay men in these countries are not oppressed.

We encourage members of our community to make themselves more aware of what is at stake in Central America and of the Reagan Administration's role in thwarting the freedom of these people. Anyone wishing for further dialogue should contact us at P.O. Box 4971, San Francisco, CA 94101.

Carol Dutton/John Frank
for Lesbians and Gays Against
Intervention in Latin America

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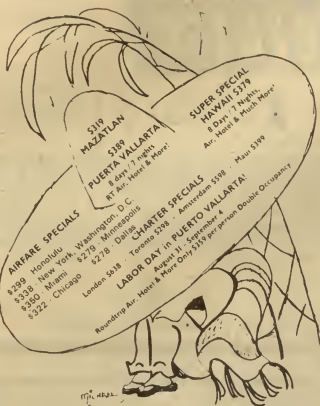
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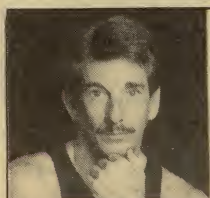
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LETTERS

An AIDS Manifesto

★ We are people with AIDS. We have a disease that is poorly understood, often fatal, expensive, disabling, disruptive of our lives and those of our loved ones, inadequately testable, and so far incurable.

We have been evicted from our homes, fired or forced from our jobs, separated from our loved ones, disowned by our blood families, refused quality health care, denied public accommodation — because society fears us, falsely, and does not understand that AIDS is not casually transmissible.

AIDS is not just a disease of urban Gay men — people with AIDS are also heterosexual and bisexual, women, rural, Black, Hispanic, Asian, infants, refugees from Haiti, and recipients of blood product transfusions.

Secretary of Health and Human Services Margaret Heckler called AIDS "the number-one health priority" for the Reagan administration, but many of us feel that in Washington it's still "business as usual" while we are dying. Over 5,000 Americans have AIDS, of whom nearly half have died. Many more have AIDS-related conditions, but not AIDS itself. Ten or hundreds of thousands more will be afflicted by AIDS before effective prevention and treatment are available.

Help us! Listen to our concerns and further them, wherever you can, nationally and in your home states and cities.

Concerns of People with AIDS:

- We need increased funding for AIDS at all levels — federal, state, local.
- We need an end to the paper-shuffling which delays the distribution of money already allocated for AIDS.
- We need "new money" for AIDS, which is a new health crisis, and not money taken from other health programs, which sets the disadvantaged against each other.
- We need funding for patient support services — housing, food, emotional support, home health care, hospice care.
- We need funding for massive educational campaigns about AIDS — to teach populations at risk how to reduce risk, to teach health care workers how to care for people with AIDS and the "worried well," and to teach the general public not to discriminate against people with AIDS.
- We need a strong research focus on cure for those who already have the disease, as well as screening and prevention for those who do not.
- We need the government to fund more research proposals, some of which are currently going begging, and not just follow one promising line of scientific inquiry.
- We need an end to social discrimination in housing, employment, health care, and public accommodation, and an enforcement of laws against discrimination against the handicapped.
- We need service providers to understand that a screening test for the virus HTLV-III, which is not specific for AIDS, may result in discrimination in employment and insurance for those who test positive for the virus but who do not have AIDS.
- We need assurance that our medical records are confidential and that our rights to privacy will be respected.
- We need service providers — including the Social Security Administration — to understand that many people are seriously ill with AIDS-related conditions, but do not fall under the CDC's narrow definition of AIDS, and are denied needed services.
- We need to be included in AIDS-decision making, and to choose our own representatives.

Thank you for helping us to fight for our lives.

Bobbi Campbell
San Francisco

Cops' Live Sex Show

★ The important issue of the "cop caper" is being obscured by personalities and politics. Balestreri and Hession, and now Lagarejos and Marcal, are variously being depicted as either "scapegoats" and "victims" or the recipients of righteous justice. In the straight press the incident is being portrayed as "boys will be boys." Actually, it's a case of "bullies will be bullies" . . . and, in this instance, according to Herb Caen, the victim is a Gay recruit.

We're not concerned with an illegal sexual act; we are concerned with a philosophy of discrimination that permeates the police force. If Balestreri and Hession, at the next police social function, will allow themselves to be handcuffed and fucked on stage by a couple of volunteers from the Gay community, I will personally carry a banner in the Gay Day parade advocating their reinstatement. The concept of discrimination would be neutralized, at least in their case. However, this goes beyond the individual case.

This incident is but a symptom of the problems within the SFPD. The Department has finally acquiesced to psychological screening in an effort to eliminate unsuitable candidates. It is obvious that the "officers" are being recruited at too young an age. We're not looking for cannon fodder or religious novitiates; we need mature men and women. A statement made by Hession reveals a pathetic condition: "my neighbors didn't even know I was a police officer." Something is terribly wrong when a man doesn't want to be known as a member of the SFPD to his neighbors in San Francisco or feels that he has to hide out in a police ghetto in Novato.

The investigation by the police officials and commission will be a farce if we return to the status quo. Let's initiate change by integrating the police officer into our society rather than isolating him from the society. If he can't maintain himself as an individual he can't function as a police officer. Police officers no longer relate as individuals or even like nuns as pairs, they only function in packs. City Hall is trying to substitute quantity for quality and it won't work. We've got to focus on police individuality.

Martin F. Stow
San Francisco

Good Motives, Bad Logic

An open letter to Mayor Dianne Feinstein

★ I've been a San Franciscan for six years now. I love it here; I've never been happier. And I feel you are doing a great job as mayor.

Now I disagree with you on something. I thought I'd write you and share a few insights on this horrible AIDS situation. I am not a doctor or any multi-credentialed "expert." I am a nurse and medical laboratory technologist. I have cared for several AIDS patients, helping them to die at home, and I've done a lot of AIDS screening tests. I feel that I do have somewhere to come from on this issue.

As the mayor, it must be very frustrating and nerve wracking to see your constituents dying horrible deaths at a very young age. Also, as mayor, I'll bet you feel you must "do something" to halt this tragedy. These feelings are very understandable. I wouldn't want your job for anything. But, Honorable Mayor, I feel that closing the baths (or desexing them) is completely inappropriate in the war against AIDS. I don't know what you should be doing but I do feel that you should not be overly concerned about the baths.

I feel: 1) you're barking up the wrong tree, 2) there's the danger that you do feel you are doing something to stop AIDS and as a result you aren't leaving yourself open for something you could do which would be effective and appropriate, 3) you're throwing good money away on investigation and enforcement.

In my opinion, all you can do is educate adults. You cannot legislate morality. If you desex the baths, you are minimizing your profile in the eyes of those of us who know just how silly and ineffective desexing the baths is in reference to combating AIDS.

R. Jay Baldwin
San Francisco

Not Welcome Here

★ On the evening of July 29, at approximately 9:45 p.m., I entered the Watering Hole Bar on the corner of Folsom Street and Hallam Place. At the time of my entry, as well as all during that weekend, the bar had been celebrating its "Grand Re-Opening Party" at this location. Since I have been living upstairs in the hotel where the bar is located, I wanted to partake in the festivities and also meet a friend there for a drink.

I was clad in the following apparel: black and white dress, black high heels, black handbag and shawl. In the past, when the bar was located on the corner of Sixth and Folsom, I would go over there dressed in jeans, but since this was a "Grand Re-Opening Party," my appearance as a transvestite should not have mattered.

After arriving on the premises, I was directed to the complimentary buffet and told by one of the patrols to help myself. I started to, but upon seeing my friend there, I went over and spoke to him for a few minutes. One of the managers of the bar came up to us and asked me, "Are you going to have something to drink while you're here?" My friend replied, "Yes, she is with me," and turning to me, he asked, "What would you like to drink, Henry?" I told him, and he then went up to the bar to order.

Moments after he left, the manager asked me for some identification. When I showed him my California ID card, he replied, "That's not enough. I need two picture ID's." I told him at that time that I did not possess such identification, and this manager responded with the words, "That's our policy," and started to walk away.

At that point, I walked up to the edge of the bar where my friend was and told him to cancel the drink, and explained the reason. As I turned to leave, the manager was right behind me. As I turned, he looked as though he was about to say something, but I spared him the words and left immediately.

This is the first time, after one year of living in San Francisco and over one year of living in the South of Market area, that I have been treated in this fashion in any bar. I had been told previously by an ex-employee of this bar of this manager's discriminatory remarks regarding blacks, and even though there were a couple of blacks already in attendance, I felt as though I was the one who was singled out, and not only due to my apparel. I feel that this type of attitude reflects very poor taste — not just upon this bar, but upon this community itself.

If there had been any indication in the beginning that this "party" was to be considered "exclusive" to a particular sort of clientele, or if this "policy" was to become stringently enforced at this time, these actions should have been brought out beforehand. But this had not been the case, for upon my entry I received the same welcome that I have received in the past from the patrons of the bar.

Henry Michael Judge Chappell
San Francisco

LETTERS

Federal AIDS Funds

* The following is an open letter to Margaret Heckler, Secretary of Health and Human Services:

I strongly urge you to favorably consider the request for supplemental funding for the fight against AIDS recently sent to you by Dr. Brandt, the Assistant Secretary for Health. This supplemental funding request for \$20 million for the remainder of FY 1984 and the projected request for \$35 million for FY 1985 is urgently needed to maximize the benefits of the recent research breakthroughs achieved by the National Institute of Health.

As a Representative of San Francisco, which suffers the highest per capita incidence of this malady, I know that every day of delay in the research effort means another potential death from this disease. The rate of new cases of AIDS in San Francisco is still 1.2 per day with 33 new cases reported in June and 23 deaths from the disease in that month. Clearly the funds requested are greatly needed not only by my constituents but by thousands of potential persons at risk.

Dr. Brandt's requests seem thoroughly documented and deserving of your approval. I hope that you will approve this request and I assure you that I will do all that I can to persuade my colleagues in the Congress to act quickly to enact the necessary legislation.

I appreciate your concern about this critical public health priority and hope that I will soon learn of your favorable response to Dr. Brandt's request.

Barbara Boxer
Member of Congress

Sawdust

* This little story could be filed under "In Search of the Almighty Dollar on Castro St." Last Friday, it being a pleasant morning, I decided on breakfast at the Patio Cafe to take advantage of the warm, sunny weather. After having been seated and placing an order, I realized they were in the process of major construction on the patio, namely, rebuilding the outside stairway, with much sawing, hammering and general confusion. It was far from the quiet breakfast I had envisioned, a reaction shared by the other patrons judging from the comments and annoyed expressions.

While paying my check (grudgingly), I suggested to the cashier that they could have picked a better time for the repair work. He said "Well, really, we can't do it at night." I suppose in their estimation it is better to subject paying customers to a case of indigestion rather than close down for a day and lose a few dollars. Well, they may have made a few bucks but they sure lost my business, and that of anyone served eggs a la sawdust.

Jerry Schmidt
San Francisco

Represent Yourself

* To those among us who decry Sister Boom Boom and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence I can only say this: If you feel that the Sisters are doing the Gay rights movement more harm and good and that they do not represent you, get out of your closet and represent yourselves! As much as many of us would like them to, the Sisters are not going to disappear and will probably resist any attempt to sweep them under the carpet. Coming out to our straight relatives, friends and co-workers is sometimes a painful experience, but it is the only way we are going to destroy the oppressive stereotypes which do more harm to our movement than the Sisters could ever do.

Think about it this way: if every single Gay man and woman came out publicly tomorrow, the world would be so shocked that the infamous Sisters would rapidly fade into oblivion. We ARE everywhere!!

Tom Babick
San Francisco

Wisconsin Appeal

* Greetings from Wisconsin — the nation's "Gay rights state."

First, let me sincerely thank all of you who received Milwaukeean Miriam Ben-Shalom so enthusiastically at the National March for Lesbian/Gay Rights. Miriam was truly delighted with San Francisco and the response she mustered at the rally. It was an honor as a publisher to realize the merit of Miriam's efforts in the past to see that she was part of the now historic event. However, after Miriam's participation in the rally, I cannot help feeling somewhat disappointed by the treatment she received there.

The march committee was contacted as soon as we received their first press release. At that time I had brought up the idea of having Miriam address the rally — I could not have thought of anyone I would have rather seen represent America's Heartland than Miriam. The idea sounded appealing to the committee and we were basically "put on hold" until the entire committee could review her qualifications and decide if she could, in fact, attend as a speaker.

Final confirmation did not come until approximately ten days prior to the march/rally. Needless to say, fundraising efforts were thwarted and it was necessary for *In Step* magazine to foot her airfare. (She was given \$140 towards the airfare after she arrived in San Francisco.)

It would have been real interesting to have Miriam address some of the women's groups while in the Bay Area, yet none would have her because of the short

notice. Obviously, I couldn't very well organize fundraising and speaking engagements without knowing for sure if she was even going. I cannot blame the various organizations for their response, but do sincerely thank them for their interest. I believe they would have found great merit in listening to her.

After confirmation was received, the committee reassured me that housing, meals and transportation would be provided Miriam. She was put up at a march committee member's house out by the ocean (considerably far from the Gay and Lesbian oriented areas), without meals, alone, and without transportation. Had I known this, I would have seen to it one of my personal friends there in San Francisco take care of her. As far as transportation, she was given a map of San Francisco and told where she was. Is that any way to treat a stranger to your city? Of course not!

There were a myriad of other problems that arose through this entire fiasco — all directly attributable to the incompetency of some of the members of the committee.

The reason I chose to write to you is that I'm sure others within your great community will be organizing participants of future events and I would really hate to see others go through what we did. Miriam has spent nine years in court fighting the Army — won her case — and is still pursuing further legal action. In those nine years she has spent approximately \$9,000 of her own money, and is now unemployed. Her case has received national attention and created a precedence that is being utilized by others in their subsequent fights against the military. She is faced with yet another \$76,000 in legal fees for her appeal against her most recent decision, and I don't think asking the committee to put up her airfare and accommodations was asking too much.

We're pretty disappointed with the committee, but realize that they are only a select few in your great city that helped ruin this event for us. I know for a fact that most Gays and Lesbians in the Bay Area would never have thought to treat an invited speaker/guest the way Miriam was.

It would help, however, when you see various organizations soliciting funds that you consider donating an extra buck or two so the organizations do, in fact, have sufficient funds to successfully organize an event like the national march. San Francisco is a true melting pot of Gay men and Lesbians who, for usual reasons of oppression and/or discrimination, venture to San Francisco to live a healthy and open alternative life style.

Thanks for hearing me out, and thanks to those of you who did make the extra effort to afford Miriam — and the rest of the world — a truly historic event.

Those of you who, in the name of liberation, would like to help out with Miriam's historic case, donations are being accepted by the Gay People's Union, P. O. Box 208, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Mark "For Miriam" on your check memo space. Her lawyer has agreed to make public all financial liabilities, and is confident that the appeal can be won. Should the appeal be won and attorney fees recovered, those funds will be returned to the Gay People's Union Defense Fund for future court battles. *In Step* magazine appreciates and urges your support.

Dave Iraci
Co-Editor and Publisher
Wisconsin 'In-Step' magazine

Jon Sims

* I don't know why Arthur Evans, whoever he is, felt that he was appointed to self-righteously judge, emphasizing the negative side of Jon Sims, and cast disparaging remarks about those qualities. But the old adage "It's better to keep your mouth shut and be thought a fool than to open it and remove all doubt" seems apropos. It reminded me of the scene in *Zorba* where the old woman hadn't even taken her last breath before her possessions were seized and quarreled over.

Fortunately, Mr. Evans cannot deprive us of the legacy of not only Jon's music, but also the inspiration to continue to bridge the gap between straight and gay audiences through the dialog of music. When your talent is of the calibre as that of Jon you're bound to offend some people and it's always easier to tear down than to emulate them and give them their rightful due for their perseverance and hard work. And being human, Jon did have his faults but we don't just brush him aside because he failed to live up to someone's expectations.

I'm proud to have known Jon as a friend and for the impact he made I would rank him as one of the true Gay leaders along with Troy Perry, who had the fault of continually being late for appointments. Certainly there were many ministers and talented musicians throughout the world, but it took men like Jon and Troy who not only had the dreams, but also who had the dedication to lead the way to see those visions made manifest.

Jon knew we loved and supported him and Dr. Houser expressed his appreciation for Jon and what he accomplished with the S.F. Gay Men's Chorus and the band with free chiropractic treatments and my contribution was free massages. We were in the audience for Jon's triumph at Davies Hall and we also shared some of his moments of depression later on, doing whatever we could to bolster his spirits.

It was a tremendous loss for the many whose lives Jon touched and we join them and his sister mourning Jon's passing. But we know that Jon has closed one chapter and begun another on another plane. Thank you for the music, Jon.

Glenn Schnoll
San Francisco

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Thousands of people are saving money at tax time and earning money in their spare time as income tax preparers.

H&R Block, the world's largest income tax preparation service, is offering a basic income tax course starting September 12 and 13 with morning, afternoon and evening classes available.

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POLITICS AND POKER

Pachydermic Preparations

WAYNE FRIDAY

The Republican National Convention opens in Dallas Aug. 20 and the Grand Old Party is worried that with no losing presidential candidates, no apparent platform fights, no vice-presidential surprise, and no apparent party squabbles, there will probably be very little life to their gathering. Party leaders and Reagan campaign officials are nervously examining some new ideas to spur public interest and take advantage of the massive national television exposure that such political conventions usually provide.

A number of events have been planned by the Republicans for their three-day confab that are designed to spur interest in the convention and the re-election campaign of Ronald Reagan and George Bush. Opera great Luciano Pavarotti has been hired by the Party to do a concert in Dallas the night before the convention opening. A "cavalcade of future party stars" such as New York's Jack Kemp and California's George Deukmejian will be presented on national TV at another gala party featuring Frank Sinatra, Bob Hope, Joan Rivers, and a score of other Hollywood stars. The Dallas Welcoming Committee is spending \$170,000 to advertise events like a parade featuring Olympic athletes (who supposedly favor Reagan's re-election), and like their Democratic counterparts in San Francisco, each of the state delegations will be hosted at private parties by Dallas city bigwigs.

Dallas itself, still stereotyped by a highly-rated television soap opera and the 1963 assassination of President John Kennedy, is nervous about the upcoming convention and hopes to "put on their best face" for the world to see.

In much the same way San Francisco prepared for the Democrats, Dallas is spending millions in a downtown tree spruce-up and the repaving of otherwise ignored streets. The nearly 50 hotels hosting delegates have been hit by extra health inspections. A ban on parking boats and recreational vehicles in front yards was recently enacted to aid a city-wide cleanup, and jury calls for all local courts are canceled for the week of the convention to help prevent downtown traffic congestion.

Dallas officials want no incidents that might possibly embarrass their city or the Republican Party. Hence, a protest group that wanted to establish a tent city in the area of the Convention Center had to sue before the city agreed.

Police have budgeted \$1.5 million for overtime alone, and county commissioners, worried about possible car bomb attacks, voted last week to shut down a garage under the county courthouse during the convention.

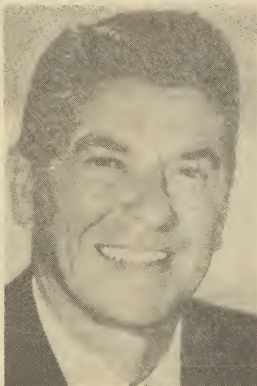
Dallas is hoping that the heavy media coming to their city with the Republicans will project a view of the Texas city that is not often thought to be shining. Fred Meyer, the chair of the 20,000 volunteer Republican Host Committee, says, bluntly, "We see this as the opportunity to broaden and deepen the knowledge of Dallas." Another Dallas official who fought hard to convince the GOP to hold their convention there, said that "everybody's just kind of cross-

ing their fingers that nothing gets out of control; we see this as a chance to have the national spotlight show how far we've come since November of 1963" when Kennedy was gunned down on a Dallas street.

And despite popular belief otherwise, California Rep. Tony Coelho, a key advisor



Stretching It a Bit. Here's "Plastic Man" at the Democratic Convention. Yes, he got in — with press credentials. Security guards said, "You must be with the Gay press." Nope. But he's welcome to rewrite our shorts. (Photo: Rink)



Ronald Reagan

to the Mondale camp in his capacity as chair of the House Democratic Campaign Committee, told reporters this week that the Mondale people have not really written off hopes of carrying California in November. Coelho, a congressman from Merced, declared in Washington that the Democrats' choice of Geraldine Ferraro for vice president is "very hot politically" and we're "very excited now about the possibilities" (of carrying California). Rep. Coelho, hoping to shore up worried California Democratic officeholders, said that Mondale's campaign manager, Robert Beckel, will visit the state soon to "tell people personally here that we are going after California."

Almost as though Mondale was no longer the ticket leader, Coelho, praising Ferraro, said, "Before the Convention, I would have told you that no matter who we put on the ticket, we couldn't touch California,

but now opinion polls show tremendous movement in California... all of a sudden Gerry is catching on."

Friends of Community College Board president Tim Wolfred are holding a major fundraiser for his re-election campaign on August 16, at the home of Jan Zivic, 180 St. Germain Ave.; \$100 donation includes a buffet, hosted bar, etc. (6-8 p.m.; 558-9700 for info). •

A record nine women of both parties are seeking election to the U.S. Senate this year. The problem is that almost all of them are running against strong incumbents and aren't given much of a chance. Only Repub-

lican Senator Nancy Kassebaum of Kansas, who is seeking a second term, is rated a sure favorite to win.

In North Carolina, Mayor Charles Ramsey of East Spencer says he's probably guilty of bad judgment, but not the indecent exposure charge he now faces. Mayor Ramsey is accused of entering a convenience store last week wearing only see-through panties. He says it was a bathing suit. His Honor goes on trial August 28. • As though he needed more national exposure, Governor Deukmejian (he of the AB-1 veto) will formally nominate Vice President George Bush for re-election at the Dallas convention. • State Senator Milton Marks will open his re-election headquarters shortly at Market and Noe Streets. Clint Reilly, Marks' campaign manager, says the Marks re-election effort has raised "about 250,000 so far" with hopes of raising "a half-million dollars total."

One of the better print stories to appear nationally during last month's Demo convention was the guest column written by Harry Britt ("Gay Rights: One Issue, But Important For All") in the national *USA Today*. • And it doesn't hurt to have an important old man: Ron Reagan, Jr., who covered the Demo convention here last month for *Playboy*, will do a number of daily columns during the GOP Convention this month for the *Dallas Morning News*. • The complete cost of the funeral, cremation, and other arrangements for John O'Connell, who died last week after being brutally attacked, was donated by the Neptune Society of San Francisco. ■

And the Band Played On In Memory of Jon Sims

Hundreds of Musicians Raise Their Voices To Evoke the Spirit of the Gay 'Pied Piper'

by Allen White

They came from all over the country for this tribute. Dave Fridlund flew in from Washington, D.C., to play the drums. Shelley Hutchinson arrived from Los Angeles to play again on the French horn. Trumpeter Richard Best drove up from North Hollywood.

Nancy Corporan made the trip from New York City to play in the band as a final tribute to its founder, Jon Sims, who was memorialized with a mammoth meeting of musical talent at Grace Cathedral on Friday night.

Corporan had been best friends with Sims; they had attended college together. She performed in the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band, and it was at Sims' encouragement that she helped found the Big Apple Corps in New York City — one of two dozen bands which Jon Sims' work here prompted.

Corporan read letters she had received from Sims, and many band members in the audience of more than one thousand gave little nods of acknowledgment as she related the maestro's joys, frustrations and memories of an era which now, with Jon Sims' death July 16, has passed.

More than one thousand people were on hand to celebrate the life of Jon Sims. There was tons of talent, but the evening lacked focus. What was announced as a celebration turned, for the most part, into a more traditional funeral service.

Several musical organizations which had been inspired by the vision of Jon Sims performed. They included the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band, the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, the Pacific Lesbian/Gay Singers, the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Chorus, the Temescal Gay Men's Chorus, the Vocal Minority, and David Kelsey & Pure Trash. There were solos by Ruth Hastings, Sean Martinfield, Terry Peterson and Brad Brown.

The performance by all the talent was flawless. The audience and the performers were united in their desire to present a grand tribute in honor of Jon Sims. During the evening he was described as "the pied piper of Gay music." Following the creation of the Gay band and the Gay chorus in 1978, Gay and Lesbian groups began to sprout up not only in San Francisco, but all over the United States. This was their night to say thanks. The more than 300 artists were excellent in their presentations.

Celebration also means participation. Yet, the crowd filling the main sanctuary of Grace Cathedral was unable to determine how it could respond. Following a powerful "Over the Rainbow" by Ruth Hastings, there was silence enough to hear the proverbial pin drop. The music of Chopin, Janacek, Holst and Borowski that followed was polite and tasteful — but it was not what this crowd wanted to hear.

The break in the tedium came when David Kelsey heralded an eight-bar fanfare from the cathedral's mammoth pipe organ. Then Doug Woods kicked into a rhythmic beat on the drums and the brass of Pure Trash slammed into a driving Dixieland version of "Just A Closer Walk With Thee."

It was the sound of Bourbon Street, of a New Orleans jazz funeral, and for the first time,



Striking Up the Band to mark the passing of its founder. Members of the Gay Freedom Day Marching Band leave Grace Cathedral to serenade on the steps. (Photo: Rink)

the audience began to smile, tears started to well up in eyes and people began to participate.

Kelsey's Pure Trash was followed by entertainer Jose Sarría. With a smart boa wrapped around a well-tailored suit, he commented on the simplicity of his outfit. In San Francisco's best camp tradition he told the crowd how Jon Sims had captured "a corner in my heart." Jose commented, "I said to myself, this old lady has got to get to know that man, and so we had tea." Jose was giving the audience an opportunity to respond to the Jon Sims they knew.

Sprinkled throughout the audience were the identifiable red

jackets of the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band. It was the band that most people related to Sims. Many in the audience had not participated as band members for years.

One of those was John Kovach. Sitting quietly in a pew, he was a stark contrast to the man who in 1979 had volunteered countless frenzied hours to keep the newly formed organization glued together.

At 10:19, almost two hours after the stated start time, the band went into action. With the drums and cymbals of ten percussionists (count 'em ten), the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band began playing Gershwin's "Strike Up the Band." The FLAG Corps



Jon Sims Memorial fills Grace Cathedral with music, memories. (Photo: Rink)

marched down the center aisle with flags waving and the dramatic excitement which Jon Sims had so many times created came alive. The audience started to clap and the band played like it had not played in years.

Former band members were there in force. By checking the uniform of the player, the year they played could be identified. Early members wore t-shirts, some wore the newer polo shirts, others wore tuxedos and many displayed the new 1984 formal band uniforms.

These were the band members who had the courage to walk through firecrackers back in 1979 during the Chinese New Year's Parade, and they knew the feeling of flying beer cans during the Redwood City Fourth of July Parade. These were some of the individuals who turned taunts into respect at the 1978 Columbus Day Parade and forged a new path for Gay rights through music along parade routes.

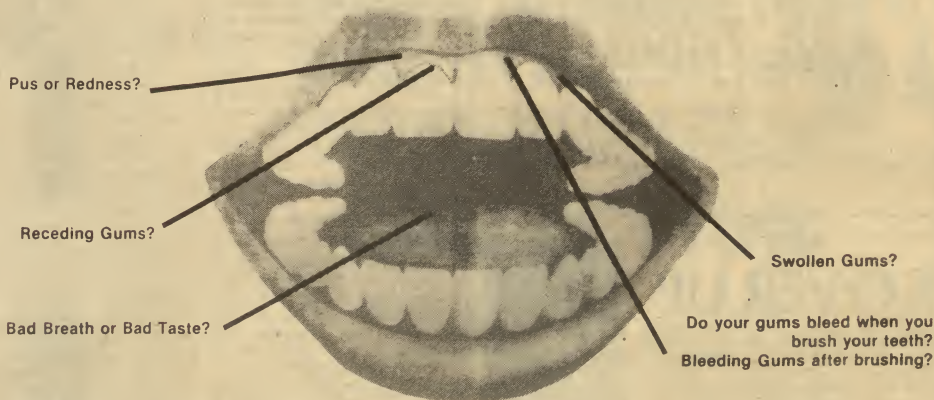
As the service concluded, the band played, "If My Friends

Could See Me Now," unquestionably the theme song of this remarkable band. As they marched out of the cathedral, the scores of musicians did Sims proud. It was the band he created with many, many of the people he had directed. They were marching with their heads held high and the moment was thrilling.

Significantly, the best was yet to come. Outside in the courtyard the band members simply chose not to stop. They were going to keep playing. As television lights lit up the bands and the bronze doors of the cathedral in the background, the band began to play "California, Here I Come." It was the first song the band had ever played in public, at the 1978 Gay Freedom Day Parade.

In one corner of the courtyard, the flags of the FLAG corps were waving, in another corner the tap troupe was dancing. Twirler Richard Roesner was twirling his baton the best he had ever done. Helium-filled balloons which had decorated the cathedral were taken outside and released into the night air.

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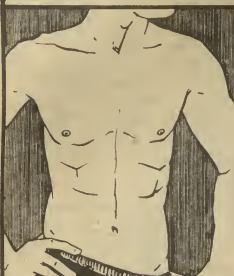
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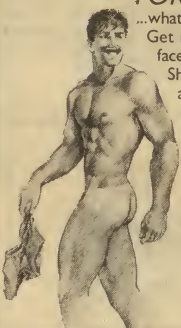
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AIDS COVER UP

Steve Perkins, CPA, asks some most interesting questions with regard to the AIDS crisis. He reads from his copy of the Congressional Hearings, Federal Response to AIDS, held Aug. 1-2, 1983, and quotes Chairman Ted Weiss, (D) New York, p. 2: "the refusal of the Department (of Health and Human Services) to provide full access to its staff and records has seriously hampered our work."

Steve then goes on to point out that the last administration which refused information to a congressional subcommittee, a President was impeached because of it. He further speculates that since the above statement by the subcommittee chairman gained no attention in the national press — or for that matter even the gay press — something very strange is going on, indeed.

Hear the real story about AIDS every Wednesday evening at 8PM. \$10. Call Steve at 864-8597 to confirm your interest in attendance.



Helter-Skelter for Shelter; Transient Parade of Homes

'I Answered a Knock at the Door to Find Mr. K, With Suitcase, Standing on my Doorstep'

by Mike Hippler

One day in June 1983, Joel K., an unemployed and homeless middle-aged resident of New York City, picked up a copy of the *New York Native* and read an article I had written for that paper. God only knows what attracted him to it — it had nothing to do with the plight of the unemployed or the homeless — but for whatever reason, Joel decided that I was to be his savior and San Francisco the site of his salvation. With money received from who-knows-which public welfare agency, Joel caught the first bus to the West Coast to find me.

Arriving in Los Angeles by mistake, he called me collect at 7 a.m. one morning from the Trailways bus station. He barely introduced himself. He said only that he had read one of my articles in New York and wanted to meet me in order to discuss "this macho problem." Unfortunately, he was stranded in L.A. — "they" had sent him there, he explained — and could I help him out?

I asked which particular macho problem did he have in mind (my article had nothing to do with that either) and who exactly were "they"? His answers, alas, were vague and incomprehensible.

Convinced that I was talking to a lunatic, I then explained that I would be happy to help him, but as he was in L.A. and I was in San Francisco, I didn't see how it was possible — and as I was paying for this call and would like to return to bed, would he mind terribly if I hung up? He minded. I hung up anyway.

A few days later I answered a knock at the door to find Mr. K. on my doorstep, suitcase in hand. I realized at once that it was him. With his uncombed hair, five-day beard, crumpled, hand-me-down clothes, crippled arm in a sling, and a wild, haunted look in his eyes, he was worse than I had imagined.

He had found my apartment, he said, the same way he found my telephone number — in the phone book — and he just wanted to know if I could find him a place to stay for a while. Did I need a roommate, perhaps, or know someone who did? "I have money," he claimed. "I'm no bum. Of course, I do have a bladder problem, but that's all right, for I've brought my own sheets with me."

I was distraught. "Why me, oh Lord, why me?" I wondered. Dealing with a wandering lost soul was the last thing I needed at the time. This was the summer, after all, that I had been fired from my job and thrown into a plate-glass window. It was also the summer that an ex-boyfriend defaulted on a \$400 loan that I had co-signed, and my immune system decided to take a vacation.

But I could hardly turn this man away from my front stoop. Although I am no Christian, it was as if Jesus Himself were knocking at the door and I was being asked to let him in. "To hell with that," I thought, "but the least I can do is to find someone else more generous than I."

Consequently, after giving Joel a sweater to ward off the morning fog, I sat down with a copy of the Resource Guide from the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade program, the only list of community organizations I had, and searched for some kind of agency or shelter that could help him. I then picked up the phone and began to dial.

Thus was born my interest in the problems of the homeless in San Francisco.



ON THE OFF BEAT

'When Joel came to my door, I did not know everything I do now.'

MIKE HIPPLER

According to Michael O'Connor, a volunteer coordinator at the Pride Center, there are many Joels in San Francisco. Some are veteran wanderers, who for years have lived in society's margins. Battle-scarred and often embittered by their experiences, they find accommodation where they can — in the cheaper residence hotels of the Tenderloin, in a Mission Street flophouse, or, as a last resort, on the sidewalk or in the park.

Most of these have given up hope that things will ever be better for them. With no money and few marketable skills, they would be foolish to think otherwise. Some, however, like Joel, still struggle for a better life. Despite his physical handicaps and a history of mental trouble, he still cries, "The rejection has got to stop!"

There are others entirely unlike Joel who find themselves in the same position, homeless in a new and forbidding city. These are the young — those who for a myriad of reasons come to San Francisco in droves without any clear idea what they will find or how they will support themselves. Those who are Gay have heard that San Francisco is a Mecca for homosexuals and believe that somehow everything will work out for them as

soon as they step off the bus. Someone will take care of them. Someone will offer them a job and a place to stay.

Unfortunately, they usually find themselves adrift, alone, and unbefriended. Many gravitate toward Polk Street, where they learn that the key to survival is to hustle. It is a familiar story.

One option for these people is the Pride Center. There, according to O'Connor, someone will work with them to get them on their feet again. Without offering magical solutions or unrealistic promises, Pride Center personnel will try to establish a program that will enable them to take care of themselves.

"The first thing we do," said O'Connor, "is to assess their immediate needs. This almost always involved food and shelter." Food, it seems is not much of a problem. There are many soup kitchens around town — Glide Memorial, Salvation Army, St. Vincent de Paul, Hospitality House, St. Anthony's, One Mind Temple, Martin de Porres — and there are food stamps as well, which require a little more planning and effort.

Shelter is the real concern. Basically, a homeless person with little or no money in San

(Continued on next page)



Haven Near Castro. Holy Redeemer Church has a shelter for homeless youth. (Photo: Rink)

Helter-Skelter for Shelter

(Continued from previous page)

Francisco has two choices. He can stay at an inexpensive residential hotel, or he can choose a crash house. There are many predominantly Gay residential hotels — the Gough-Hayes, the Ivy Hotel, the Hotel Casa Loma, the Hacienda, the Federal, and the Folsom Street Hotel are but a few — and their rates range in the neighborhood of \$16-\$45 a day and \$70-\$155 a week. Obviously, this is not affordable for many, so the next step is the crash house.

Here again, there are many choices. The Salvation Army on McCoppin Street, Canon-Kip Community House on 8th Street, St. Vincent de Paul's Ozanam Center on Howard, and Hospitality House on Leavenworth are the main crash shelters. Gay youth can stay at Huckleberry House on Page Street, the Hospitality House, or the Berkeley Youth Alternative.

Women can choose between Raphael House on Sutter, the de Paul House on Haight, or one of a number of houses for battered women, such as La Casa de las Madres. Several churches also provide temporary shelter, usually at one of the aforementioned missions. Persons who call Old St. Mary's, St. Patrick's, or Glide Memorial, for instance, will be referred to St. Vincent de Paul.

The services available at the crash shelters vary greatly. Some, such as the Hospitality House, have no beds. Men must sleep in chairs instead. Some, in addition to beds, also have showers, washing machines, TV, pool tables, etc. Some offer breakfast, lunch, or dinner, while others provide no food at all.

Residence requirements also vary greatly. All have check-in times and procedures, some as early as 5:30 a.m. or as late as 11 p.m. Many have waiting lines or lists, or only accept referrals. Others are closed part of the day. Some even have length-of-stay requirements. And vacancy is always a problem.

"It can be a difficult life," said O'Connor, "especially if a person is going from crash house to crash house, carrying luggage around or trying to make job appointments. But it's really not that awful, and you have to start somewhere."

To facilitate and to coordinate matters, the Canon-Kip Episcopal Sanctuary has established a Housing Hotline which is staffed from 2 to 10 every day. Homeless persons can call that line directly and find out exactly what is available at the various shelters, or they can work through an agency, such as the Pride Center.

"Because the regulations and procedures change every day, it helps tremendously if we do the work for a client," said O'Connor. "We write up a referral form and give a client careful instructions, at no charge to the client, of course."

Because crash housing is seen mainly as a temporary solution to a crisis situation, the next step in reaching self-sufficiency for a Pride Center client is usually General Assistance. This is a locally-run and funded program under the auspices of the Department of Social Services, designed to provide immediate relief for unemployed single adults seeking work.

To qualify, one must be 18 or older and be receiving no other form of assistance, such as unemployment or workmen's compensation. One must also have been unemployed for 45 days or more and have a valid ID.

If a person qualifies, he is given bed tickets for one of

several downtown hotels and enough food coupons to last two weeks. After that, he will receive a check for \$116 every two weeks, supposedly enough to enable him to survive while he looks for work. And he must look for work, or he loses his eligibility.

"Eventually," said O'Connor, "he is expected to pull it together. An important part of the program is that a person must be willing to help himself, of course. If he is not, no one else can help him. You've got to prove that you're upwardly mobile."

The Pride Center is not the only agency in town that assists the homeless. Another group, the Traveler's Aid Society, provides crisis counseling for people who have been in San Francisco for less than 45 days. According to Michelle Holt, the agency's program director, Traveler's Aid services a wide variety of people including tourists as well as the homeless, but the majority of people it helps are at or below the poverty level.

Like O'Connor, Holt will first sit down with a client and assess the client's immediate needs. If those needs include housing, she can, like O'Connor, utilize the Housing Hotline and refer clients to a crash shelter, or unlike O'Connor, she can provide emergency housing directly, which the society pays for — usually a room at the YMCA.

"We provide housing only on a priority basis," said Holt, "and the highest priority is given to those who are at risk, who are vulnerable." People with physical or mental impairments meet this requirement. So, often, do Gay men.

"We get a significant percentage of Gay men here," Holt said, "and as several of the shelters are homophobic, we do consider them to be vulnerable, especially the young." However, when Traveler's Aid does pay for a room at the Y, it is done only on a short-term basis — for a few nights at the most.

When Joel came to my door, I did not know everything I do now about the Pride Center, Traveler's Aid, and emergency shelters, and I found out little that first day. Furthermore, Joel was not the kind of person to take responsibility for himself, even though he claimed he was willing to do whatever was necessary to improve his situation. Actually, he wanted someone else to do everything for him, and he threw himself entirely upon my mercy.

So I sent him to an agency, but he claimed they gave him the run-around, and he returned to my door. I sent him to a church, and he came back with the same story. In desperation, I sent him to an inexpensive Gay hotel, and there he spent the last of his money. I did not realize that he had so little, and I was trying to avoid the final option — crash shelters.

Eventually, Joel made his way to General Assistance and found a room somewhere, but only after weeks of pestering me day in and day out and spending several nights on park benches and vacant lots when I refused to let him spend the night with me. I felt guilty that I would not let him stay in my house, but I knew I had to draw a line somewhere. I soon discovered the limits of my compassion.

In my defense, I doubt that I've made clear how annoying Joel was. I have not mentioned his banging at my door in the middle of the night, the visits from the police when the neighbors took him for a vagrant, or the eventual threats and ultimatums. Joel truly did need far

Larkin Street Youth Center



Home for Homeless Youth. Russ Zellers (l.) and Greg Day of the Larkin Street Youth Center, one haven for the homeless. (Photo: Rink)

more help than either I, the Pride Center, or the shelters could give him, and I had no idea where he could find that help.

After a few months, Joel finally gave up on San Francisco and returned to New York. "This city is too hard," he told me. "Nobody here cares." Perhaps. Perhaps the cards were too well stacked against him. But can New York really be any better? And what of all the other homeless who come to this city, the ones who are not weighed down by all Joel's handicaps? Will they, too, give up in despair? Or will they realize that there are

options and take advantage of them?

I still get calls from Joel from time to time, but I never answer them. If forced to play the role of saint or sinner now, I'll choose sinner. And if another Joel, destitute, shows up at my door tomorrow, I won't take him in either. But now I know what I will do. Now I know where I can send him. True, I may be abdicating responsibility somewhat this way, but at least it's better than slamming the door in his face.

M. Hippler

Atlas S&L Announces Staff Promotions

In line with Atlas Savings management philosophy to promote from within whenever possible, the Gay-owned S&L has announced the promotion of seven staff members.

Atlas' senior loan officer, William N. Fisher, was promoted to Vice President - Loans and heads up the six-person loan department. Fisher, 54, came to Atlas last February and was formerly a Vice President for Mason-McDuffie Mortgage Banking in Berkeley, as well as being in the real estate industries group for Wells Fargo Bank.

Tod Howard, 25, who was previously assistant manager at the Castro office, has been promoted to Assistant Vice President and branch manager of the Market-Duboce office. He replaces G. Vance Holley, who recently left Atlas for personal reasons.

The branch manager for Atlas' new Financial District office, Mark Fulham, 27, has also been promoted to Assistant Vice President. Mack Lyon, 37, has been moved up to Assistant Vice President - Operations.

Also tapped to be part of the staff responsible for opening the new downtown branch at 110 Bush Street is 31-year-old Patrick Sullivan. He will be Assistant Manager of the Financial District office when it opens later this summer.

Dianna Good, 26, who recently won a "Teller of the Month" award for her work as head of the new accounts department for the Market-Duboce branch, was also promoted to Assistant Manager. Wayne Farruggia, 34, also named as an outstanding employee in June, has been moved up to Assistant Manager for the Castro branch.

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Senate Race

Gay-Baiting Hits N. Carolina Contest

Arch-Conservative Helms Repeats Sex Scandal Rumor

by George Mendenhall

Bob Windsor, publisher and editor of a small, conservative newspaper in North Carolina, has printed a story which says it is "rumored" that North Carolina Governor James Hunt has had a clandestine affair with a 17-year-old male. Windsor admitted in print "this newspaper made no effort to check the rumor out and does not claim that it is the truth or factual in any way."

The *Landmark Limited* publication has a 30,000 weekly readership, but the article was reprinted in the local daily, *The Raleigh News and Observer* — in a large ad purchased by the Jesse Helms re-election campaign. Democratic moderate Hunt is challenging Republican conservative Senator Helms, a 12-year Senate veteran with a long record of opposing Lesbian and Gay rights.

Hunt, who has been married for 25 years and has four children, emphatically denied the published rumor. He said, "No person in public or private life or their families ought to have to put up with this kind of stuff, these kinds of scurrilous lies and slander." Hunt stressed that he would sue Windsor for libel if there was not a retraction. Windsor retracted.

Helms did not apologize, but he said he personally knew Hunt to be "a moral family man. Any suggestion by anybody to the contrary is repugnant and unfair." The Helms campaign announced that its staff member, J.C.D. Bailey, who placed the *Raleigh* reprint, is no longer with the campaign.

Landmark is a weekly news commentary that has been heavily financed by the Helms campaign through advertising. It has consistently attacked Lesbians and Gay men and stated that Hunt accepts funding from Gay rights groups. The publication recently ran a photo of Windsor and Helms embracing at a public function. The men are close friends and each issue of *Landmark* praises Helms.

HOMOPHOBIC CAMPAIGN

Hunt and Helms are expected to spend over \$20 million — in the current campaign. In a recent national *USA Today* poll, Helms surfaced nationally as second to President Reagan as the most popular person among conservatives — a fact that has helped him in national fund-raising.

Hunt is now also raising funds outside of North Carolina, using some Gay mailing lists. Helms, who consistently votes and speaks out against Gay rights and social programs, has extensive financial backing by the tobacco industry. Hunt has been able to use Mayor Ed Koch of New York in his TV commercials but Helms has President Reagan.

The *Raleigh News* recently stated that the Helms campaign is geared to "tar Hunt by associating him with Blacks, Gays and unions. His television commercials affixes the union label to Hunt, states that he receives contributions from homosexuals, and is linked to Rev. Jesse Jackson."

One Helms TV commercial-



Sen. Jesse Helms

urged that "sexual deviates" would take over if there was a Hunt victory. Through June of this year, Helms has spent \$1.2 million on advertisements to Hunt's \$600,000.

Helms has been asking his followers to pledge monthly contributions to help him battle "union bosses, the liberal news media, the anti-defense radicals, and the Gay Rights crowd." This theme has been repeated numerous times.

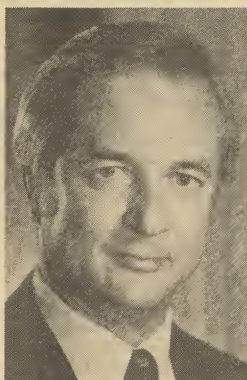
Helms has been claiming that Gay people raised \$100,000 to launch a campaign against him at a Beverly Hills cocktail party last January. That amount was raised, Los Angeles activist Morris Kight explained, but was divided among 100 separate Gay-related causes.

Landmark publisher Windsor printed in a January issue that Gay activists had contributed \$79,000 to the Hunt campaign but gave no source for his statement. Windsor later wrote that he had received anonymous threats on his life from Gay activists and called them "fags" and "perverts." His often rambling newsletter has also charged that a Lesbian group threatened one of his advertisers and that there is a link between the North American Man/Boy Love Association and sadomasochists.

Helms' advertisements have demanded that Hunt deny that he has received support from Gay groups. Last month, Will Marshall, press aide for Hunt, said no Gay organization had contributed to the Hunt campaign.

FOUR MONTHS TO GO

Who will win in November? A recent Gallup Poll had Helms over Hunt 50-46 percent. Hunt was favored by significantly more women and Blacks (79 percent) than Helms. Helms was favored by 56 percent of the men with only 40 percent supporting Hunt. Hunt believes this can be reversed by an emphasis on Helms international links



North Carolina Gov. James Hunt

with the Right in other countries and a counter-reaction to the extreme amount of outside money being poured into the Helms campaign.

Helms, a Republican, was elected to the Senate in 1972 as a World War II Navy veteran, a former banker and tobacco industry spokesman. He has the highest ratings (95-100 percent) in the Senate from conservative organizations. He has been outspoken in his opposition to Gay rights and has supported a ban on abortions, rejection of food stamp programs, a ban on busing, and military aid to El Salvador. Helms won re-election with a surprisingly close 55 percent of the vote in 1978. He is a Baptist.

Hunt, a Democrat, was elected governor in 1976, as a Democratic Party official and practicing attorney. "He has changed the tone of public life in the state and made it live up to its traditions of tolerance and progressiveness," states *The Almanac of American Politics, 1984*. Hunt won re-election with 70 percent of the vote in 1980. He is a Presbyterian.

Governor Hunt is expected to be in attendance at the Democratic Party convention in San Francisco this week. Some local Gay activists were hopeful of holding a reception for him here this week. However, the controversy over his alleged ties with the Gay community and the rumor about his alleged sexual encounter may have ended that possibility.

The Attack on Hunt

Editor's Note: The following is the article which began the gay-baiting campaign in the race for U.S. Senate in North Carolina. It was written by Bob Windsor, editor of a conservative newspaper called the *Landmark*.

Is Jim Hunt homosexual? Is Jim Hunt bi-sexual? Is he AC and DC? Has he kept a deep dark secret in his political closet all of his adult life? Many people are asking those questions and have been for a long time.

A man told me that Jim Hunt had a lover who was a pretty young boy from North Carolina but was presently employed by the U.S. State Department. He called the boy by name and gave me the location of his home town. The fact that he gave his employer gave credibility to the story. The state department is loaded with homos.

Hunt has a preoccupation with dress and appearances. He has the prettiest manicured fingernails you have ever seen. He wears a hair spray that keeps his hair so rigid that it would break before it would bend. At a social event like a cocktail party he flits around with his catty chit-chat just like one of the girls. He likes to give the appearance of a real robust macho gait in his walk, but in unguarded moments he has a prissy little step and his body English is more feminine than masculine. You might call it feline . . .

I have been told that he took lessons on how to change his speech and mannerisms to conceal his femininity. Can you imagine Hunt taking a chew of tobacco and throwing a baseball? Can you imagine him pumping iron or throwing a football? I cannot. By the way, I wonder if he never served in the military. Jesse Helms served three years in the Navy. I served three years in the Marines. Did he get a deferment, was he 4-F, or was he just a draft-dodger? I wonder. That is another thing Hunt never mentions out loud. In the Marine Corps we gave such names as "Sadie" and "Bessie" to the foppish types like Hunt. A gunnery sergeant would have chewed him up and spit him out the first day.

I like a man who looks, walks and talks like a man. Someone like Jesse Helms.

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Falwell Denies Statement; It's There on Videotape

**Sacramento Activist/Falwell College Colleague
Tackles Moral Majority Leader on TV**

SACRAMENTO - Rev. Jerry Falwell challenged Jerry Sloan to produce a tape of Falwell saying the Metropolitan Community Churches are "Brute beasts . . . a vile and satanic system" which will "one day be utterly annihilated and there will be a celebration in heaven."

Falwell issued his \$5000 challenge during KCRA-TV's live morning show, *Look Who's Talking*, on July 13. The show is hosted by Jim Finnerty and Sue Pearson.

Jerry Sloan, a Sacramento Gay activist and former schoolmate of Falwell's, asked him why in light of his statement that we should "Love the sinner hate the sin," he had made the statements concerning the Metropolitan Community Churches, a Christian church of which 85 percent of its communicants are Gay or Lesbian.

These statements were made on an Old Time Gospel Hour telecast shown on KSCO-TV and KRBK-TV on March 11.

During the *Look Who's Talking* show, Falwell interrupted Sloan several times denying the statements, saying it was "a lie!"

Falwell continued to deny the statements saying the tapes did not exist. He then challenged Sloan to produce the tape saying he would give Sloan \$5000 if he could.

On Wednesday, July 18, Sloan took two tapes to KCRA-TV for an interview with Mike Boyd. Rev. Falwell has yet to produce the \$5000.

Jerry Sloan is a former licensed clergyman with the Metropolitan Community Churches. He is the founder of churches in Des Moines and Wichita. Sloan is a member of the River City Democratic Club and a member of the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Week Committee. This year he has received community service awards from two different Lesbian/Gay organizations.

Both Falwell and Sloan attended the Baptist Bible College in Springfield, MO., between the years of 1954 and 1956.

The following is a transcript from *Look Who's Talking* broadcast on KCRA-TV, Sacramento, on July 13. The conversation is between Rev. Jerry Falwell and Jerry Sloan. *Look Who's Talking* hosts are Jim Finnerty and Sue Pearson.

JS: Let me ask you now because you have been vocal on your stand on homosexuality, as has the Moral Majority, how do you react to what the Gays say that you would just as well see them off the face of the earth?

FAL: Well, they're wrong, of course, not all say that. But we, we do believe homosexuality is a immorality as we do promiscuous heterosexuality. But that is not our main message and that is not why we went to San Francisco. We

went there because the Democrats had chosen it as the site for the convention.

JS: Hi, Jerry, it is good to see you.

FAL: Another Jerry, I notice.

JS: Jerry Sloan from Baptist Bible College.

FAL: I remember you well.

JS: We went to school together, Jerry and I did. I am a Gay man. And recently on a broadcast of yours, telecast of yours.

FAL: Your hair's turned loose and mine's turned gray.

JS: Right, gray and loose. Ah, recently on a broadcast you made a statement about Metropolitan Community Churches, I mean, you say you ah, hate the, love the homosexual, but hate the sin. You made a statement concerning Metropolitan Community Church in which you said they were brute beasts, part of a vile and satanic system —

FAL: I never said that! It's an absolute lie!

JS: Well, you certainly did! I've got a tape of it.

FAL: Well, I'd like to hear the tape. Play it right now and I'll acknowledge it.

JS: I don't have it in my possession right now —

FAL: Of course you don't have it because it doesn't exist!

JS: Well, it certainly does!

FAL: It does not exist!

JS: It certainly does!

FAL: May I tell you that while I believe —

JF: Let me clear up, Metropolitan Community Church is what for those who don't know?

FAL: It's a Gay church.

JS: It's a Christian church that accepts every person into their membership.

FAL: Do you have any non-gays in the church?

JS: Sure, sure they do.

FAL: You do?

JS: But, anyway, you said, you also said, that there would be rejoicing in heaven when they would be annihilated.

FAL: That's an absolute lie, Jerry! And I'll threaten you, I give you \$5000, I'm saying this on television, if you can produce that tape!

JS: Hallelujah!

FAL: (laughter)

JS: What is your position? What have you said about this particular church?

FAL: I have said, the Met-

ropolitan Community Church has to deny the inerrancy of the Scripture and the teachings of the Word of God in order to call itself a church. Because the Word of God — Romans one, ah very clear, Jerry knows that, he learned it where I did — ah, all the Word of God teaches that the homosexual relationship is a perverted lifestyle. The words reprobate, abomination, etc., are all used and there's no question about it when one practices that lifestyle, which only humans do, animals don't, it is not, ah, God cannot condone that. While God loves the offender, God hates the offense.




He Said It on TV. Televangelical Rev. Jerry Falwell said there will be "great rejoicing in Heaven" when the Metropolitan Community Church is "annihilated."


Reverend Jerry Falwell's complete comments concerning the Metropolitan Community Churches on March 11, 1984:

"Look at the Metropolitan Community Church today, the Gay church, almost accepted into the World Council of Churches recently, the National Council of Churches, almost, the vote was against them, but they

will try again and again until they get in and the tragedy is that they would get one vote because they are spoken of here in Jude as being brute beasts, that is, going to the baser lust of the flesh to live immorally. And so, Jude describes this as apostasy. Thank God, this vile and satanic system will one day be utterly annihilated and there will be a celebration in heaven!" ■



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AIDS Fund Meets

EAST BAY EXCHEQUER
(A Cache Nose)

With the sobering news of four deaths from AIDS in Alameda County last month (possibly more, as information from Highland Hospital was unavailable), and that Alameda County ranks second only to San Francisco and Los Angeles Counties in AIDS-related deaths, the first East Bay AIDS Fund meeting was held Thursday evening, August 2, in Hayward.

Jeremy Landau, AIDS Project Coordinator from Pacific Center, corrected a misunderstanding about his responsibilities. His project is a program of the Pacific Center, and is connected directly with the Center, although the nature of the specific outreach aspects allows it to receive designated government funding when available.

He presented a possible working format outlining the needs that could be acceptable for funding from the East Bay AIDS Committee. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that since the outcome of the AIDS unit at Fairmont Hospital is still "iffy" at this time, attention should be focused on:

- A voucher system for emergency transportation and possible grocery needs.
- Emergency housing needs, such as a transient hotel or possibly a two or three bedroom house if one is available.
- Housing necessities, i.e. refrigerators and stoves.
- Emergency expenses, i.e. dental care, eyeglasses, etc.
- Transportation/housing for out-of-area relatives.

It was agreed that since the "funds" are not an artesian well, many donors would rather give of themselves rather than their pocketbook. The committee will start to compile a list of possible donors of time and/or services,

i.e. plumbers, electricians, haulers, nurses, gardeners, home/garden cleaners, legal advisors, etc., who could be of service under an umbrella of anonymity if so desired. Also, actual merchandise/food stuffs would certainly be accepted and could be tax deductible.

Until this committee actually starts its funding, such aspects as re-birthing and message therapy would be put on the back burner until more pressing matters are taken care of.

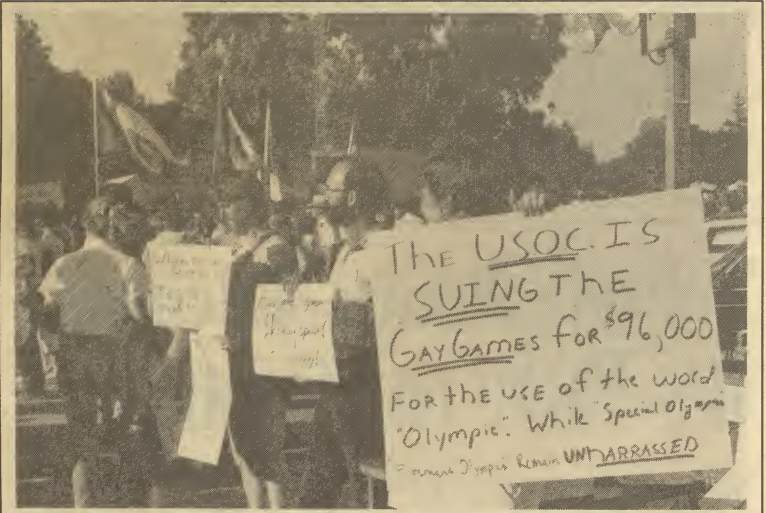
Jeremy stated that the AIDS Project at the Pacific Center supports all efforts of the East Bay AIDS Fund, and we reaffirmed our unification in getting said funds to patients with AIDS.

As of the meeting date, there were 40 people with AIDS in Alameda County alone. Because of the name of the committee, it is certainly hoped that Contra Costa County will support all efforts to make sure that NO patient with AIDS in the entire East Bay goes unassisted.

For the purposes of accurate record keeping, only in rare and extreme emergencies will actual cash or check be turned over to the client. It is the responsibility of the committee to disburse the funds to the actual purveyor, as it were.

To keep the East Bay community informed and current about the Fund's activities, a regular section of this column will be provided for just that purpose. And, as a reminder, any patient with AIDS in need of assistance or anyone knowing of such, please contact: Jeremy Landau (548-8283); Ed, Jim, or Daddy David (Big Mama's, 881-9310); Hayward Gay Sheriff Sean (537-3792); Pete (Revol, 652-7144); Marv (Town & Country, 444-4978); or Jodi Safier (Maranatha MCC, 881-5649). The next meeting will be Thursday, August 30, and it is hoped that by then someone

NIZ PAS



Protesting Olympic Homophobia. Stanford demonstrators confronted soccer spectators for Olympic event at Stanford field on July 29. (Photo: Gerald Koskovich)

from the Hub in Walnut Creek will volunteer as liaison from Contra Costa.

ARMARY MANDRELL III
(A Curious Nose?)

I was informed that the ACIE has taken over the disputed "An Evening in Black & White" and has renamed it "Come Have A Formal Affair with ACIE."

It will still be at Ollie's Radcliff Hall on Saturday, August 25, at 6:30 p.m. I was not informed, however, if the Grand Hostess, ten Hosts & Hostesses, three MC's, three Protocols, buffet preparers, director, or ten-plus entertainers of the original soiree will be in attendance. As I mentioned several times last issue, pyymtyc!

CANT AMPHIGORY!

(A Boggled Nose!)

High Sources, along with many "low" sources, were in complete agreement about a recent fundraiser in Oakland. It's ludicrous that a promotion of at least five months failed to prompt the establishment's owner to even show up! It's insane that after said five months' notice, not one single "in-house" preparation occurred until the very last minute! It's poppycock that that same five months' promotion gave birth to one of the rudest, inconsiderate, and tactless gatherings of "regulars" ever assembled! It's balderdash that after that same five months' promotion, the usual "fund followers" were responsible for most of the raised monies! And, what's even more ridiculous, said establishment owner had the audacity and impudence to request yet another fundraiser at

a different location! Powers that be were heard to mutter, "Fuck You!"

There seems to be one huge "clog" in the wheel that refuses to allow "unity" to even be thought of, much less actually exist. So much for bringing the "community" together. In one brief afternoon, more was done to destroy the sagging camaraderie and esprit than yours truly could ever do in a year's worth of columns. Disgruntled is too mild a term to describe the feelings of those who were affronted with such fatuousness! It was sobering and totally embarrassing!

YONDER JOCOSENESS
DYADIC

(A Song-and-Dance Nose?)

Stemming from an extremely successful "That's Entertainment," the Hub in Walnut Creek is having an encore of its July extravaganza. I was privy to the tapes of that show (Best Video Tapes, 939-9166 — see Classifieds) and I was astonished at the professionalism of all the amateurs who performed. Also, John Crovo is the Johnny Carson/Don Rickles of the cabaret set. His MC'ing is funny — DIRTY, but funny.

The Hub needs more talent try-outs for the up-coming spectacular, so dust off your top hat, white tie, and tails and give them a call at 938-4550. There are great cash prizes as an added incentive.

The only fly in the ointment, if you will, is that "That's Entertainment" is scheduled for Sunday, September 9, the same day as Ed Paulson and Little Mother's finale in their auction series. This writer sincerely hopes that the powers that be

can change the date so that many more can partake of both worthwhile events. Any possibility, John?

PEREGRINATING!
(A Cruising Nose?)

As reported several weeks ago in this column, a bus will indeed leave Hayward. However, it will not be going as far as the Russian River. It is leaving The Spoiled Brat in route to the Tavern Guild Picnic, Sept. 16, outside of Santa Rosa. For particulars, contact them at PUB-BRAT.

Also, start saving your pennies for an outstanding Caribbean cruise, coming about in November '85. The one-week tour includes Nassau and St. Thomas, plus other exotic ports of call. The \$1,726 package includes air fare, a bar party in Miami, and, of course, all meals and lodging on the Song of Norway.

Egads! One full week trapped aboard ship with Frumpy? Wouldn't you rather ESAD?

NEZ'S NOTES:

• Little Mother and Ed Paulson are urgently in need of auctionable items for the last two sessions, the next of which is at Big Mama's, Sunday, August 26, at 4 p.m. Contact Ed (881-9310) or Little What'shername (430-1343).

• The Turf Club's annual carnival is all this weekend out in the patio. There is lots of booze, lots of booths, and lots of boodles.

• Lady Randy and Paul are the only two candidates at the first ACIE Grand Duke and Duchess elect at Ollie's Radcliff Hall, Sunday at 4 p.m. ■

Nez

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STATE NEWS

L.A. Restaurant

Discrimination Doesn't Pay — It Costs \$30,000

by George Mendenhall

Los Angeles — Papa Choux restaurant owner Seymour Jacoby may have to pay \$30,000 in fines and court costs for his discrimination against a lesbian couple. He had refused two lovers, Zandra Rolon and Deborah Johnson, the right to eat in one of six special "lovers only" booths in his Los Angeles restaurant in 1983. Jacoby has since closed the booths rather than serve same-sex couples.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Charles Jones granted the two women \$250 each, the maximum allowed under the state's Unruh Act, which bars discrimination in public accommodations. The judge, obviously disturbed at Papa Choux's court battle to retain its "right to discriminate," strongly indicated that he would order Jacoby to pay nearly all of Attorney Gloria Allred's fee — \$27,767 — plus over \$600 in court costs.

The women had placed a reservation for one of the "lovers booths" for January 3, 1983, to celebrate Martin Luther King's birthday. When they arrived they were told that the booths were "for male-female couples only."

They were told they could eat at the public tables. The women left and filed a lawsuit. Jacoby countered by placing a newspaper advertisement that specified that the special booths were

"for heterosexual couples only."

A state Court of Appeals overruled a lower court opinion earlier this year and established that the same-sex couples could not be singled out for special treatment in such situations.

The ruling stated, "While the restaurant's policy is intended to protect patrons from acts of 'intimacy' between homosexuals, it clearly could have no such effect. We are unable to conceive of any conduct that the restaurant could reasonably fear might offend the sensitivities of the most prudish patron."

In granting the fees, Judge Jones also denied a request from Papa Choux attorney Arnold Gold, that the owner be permitted to make monthly payments over a long period of time.

A jubilant Zandra Rolon said, "We will probably celebrate in a restaurant — but not Papa Choux. We were never in this for the damages. We wanted to prove a point. If they had changed their policy we would have settled for no damages and no attorney fees. They chose to fight. Now they have to pay."

"Think of all the booths this case has opened. This clearly shows that people don't have a right to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation. It has a very, very heavy message."

Attorney Allred told this reporter that the two women are "very private people" but Johnson said "although it exposed our lesbian life-mate relationship it was more than worth it."

Governor Appoints AIDS Advisors

Governor George Deukmejian has announced the following appointments to the AIDS Advisory Committee:

- Assemblyman William Filante, M.D., 54, fills a new position on the committee. Filante was elected to the Assembly in 1978 and re-elected in 1980. He represents the 9th Assembly District in Marin County.

He is an assistant clinical professor at the University of California, San Francisco; the assistant chief, Department of Oph-

thalmology at Mt. Zion Medical Center, San Francisco, and an instructor at the Pacific Medical Center, San Francisco.

Filante received his bachelor's degree and M.D. degree from the University of Minnesota. He served his internship at Detroit Receiving Hospital and his Ophthalmology residency at Los Angeles County General Hospital. He is a Republican.

- Bruce Decker, 34, of San Francisco, fills a new position on

the committee. He is president of Cypress Associates, a San Francisco public affairs consulting firm.

In 1981 Decker served on the board of Coming Home, a hospice support group for Gay men with AIDS or related illnesses. He was the founder of Beginnings, a residential facility for Gay men with AIDS. He was also the principal fundraiser for the Comprehensive Immune Dysfunction Prevention Program.

- Richard Ray Hamilton, 39, of San Francisco, fills a new position on the committee. He is

the clinical director of the Buena Vista Medical Group in San Francisco.

Hamilton is currently the chairman of the board of directors of the Committee to Halt the Advancement of Sexually Transmitted Epidemics. He organized the group in 1978.

Hamilton received his bachelor's degree in pre-medicine from the University of Colorado in 1967 and his M.D. degree in 1972 from Loma Linda University. He served his internship at Santa Monica Hospital from 1972-75. Hamilton is a Democrat.

Berkeley Schools' Partners Plan

(Continued from page 1)

the controversial measure that promises to revolutionize benefits allocation systems nationwide.

Dental care, bereavement leave, maternal and paternal leave, and other benefits immediately will apply and become available to partners of school employees. Other benefits, including health benefits, will be worked out with insurance carriers.

This is the same plan that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors approved in December 1982, but which was vetoed later that month by Mayor Feinstein. In Berkeley, just a week before School Board passage, the Berkeley City Council decided not to approve benefits for city employees, but instead to charter a union/city management study into cost consequences of expanding its benefits program.

One source indicated the move to pass the policy in the School Board was a direct response to its delayed acceptance last week by the City Council. But proponents deny that a message has effectively been sent to the City Council.

Said director Ethel Manheimer, the policy's sponsor, "I have no idea how this will affect the City Council. They have their agenda and we have ours. Our agenda is to treat all of our employees with fairness and equity and I believe we did that with this action this evening."

Said Tom Brougham, for whom the School Board decision was a major victory following a five-year lobbying stint, "I don't think the School Board has done anything more adventurous than the City Council has done, but I think they have done something which is much more

effective.

"This board has taken a series of actions which is going to produce some real useful data so that the whole issue can proceed to a just conclusion. The City Council has been so confused and timid that it's actually painted itself into a corner so that it can't get any more information," Brougham also serves as the Political Action Chair of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club.

Proponents have claimed all along that insurance people would not be willing to discuss the issue until after policy had been set. But according to the *San Francisco Examiner*, officials at Rockridge, one of the city's health-care providers, responded favorably to extending benefits to domestic partners.

In the past the domestic partners issue has been a headliner for the national press. But the Berkeley School Board policy managed to pass through without much more than a blurb in the local press.

Said Manheimer of possible acceptance of the policy within the school system: "I'm sure there's support for it among the employees who will be benefited by it and I suspect that there is also support for it among our staff generally, who believe that they probably should be treated well."

The Berkeley School Board is controlled by a Berkeley Citizens Action (BCA) majority. The BCA recently endorsed domestic partners policy at its platform convention. Its rival, the All Berkeley Coalition (ABC), holds a majority of seats on the City Council.

J. Wetzel



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THIS

FRIDAY 10

• **K-RA-ZY for Gershwin**: stage performance, 1177 Club, 1177 California St., S.F., cover. Call 776-2100 for details. With Patricia Butler and Scott McKenzie.

• **Riot Squad**: comedy/improvisation, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10:30 PM, \$4.

• **Tom Ammiano**: comedy, San Francisco International Stand-up Comedy Competition, Wolfgang's, 901 Columbus St., S.F., 9 PM, \$10. Come and cheer on the only Gay comedian in the competition.

• **Fantasy vs. Intimacy**: lecture/workshop, 2038 22nd Ave., S.F., 8 PM, cover. Lecture by Dr. Bill Knudson sponsored by the Fraternal Order of Gays.

• **Lynda Bergren**: music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 9 and 10:30 PM, \$5.

• **Floating By**: dance and trapeze, Skylight Studio, 2525 8th St., Berkeley, 8:30 PM, \$5.50. Performed by Robert Davidson and Brook Klehm.

• **Marcus Uzilevsky**: artist's reception, Off the Wall, 1669 Haight St., S.F., 5 to 9 PM. Uzilevsky returns to his neighborhood to greet friends and sign posters.

• **Slipshod Suchness: An American Backstroke**: stage performance, Intersection for the Arts, 756 Union St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$6. A multi-media performance piece by John Woodall.

• **Ikke, Ikke, Nye, Nye, Nye**: stage performance, Zephyr Theatre, 595 Mission St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$6. The Lanford Wilson play reopens for a limited run due to popular demand.

• **Dionysian Duncan Dancers**: stage performance, New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7. Dances from the repertoire of Isadora Duncan.

• **Femprov**: comedy, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, free.

• **Jazz**: dance class, Pride Center Auditorium, 890 Hayes St. at Fillmore, S.F., 6 to 7:30 PM, free. Beginning jazz taught by Ron Petersen. Wear gym clothes or loose clothing.

• **The Annual St. Valentine's Day Zin Tasting**: stage performance, Studio Eremos, 401 Alabama St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6. Written by Joe Besecker, directed by Constance Cramer.

• **Paradise Is Closing Down**: stage performance, South of Market Cultural Center, 935 Brannan St., S.F., 8 PM, \$7 and \$8. Presented by Red Flag Theater, by South African playwright Pieter-Dirk Uys, directed by Leon Johnson.

• **Two Acts for the Deaf Yak**: stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6. Reflex Action Theatre presents Christofer Durang's *Nature and Purpose of the Universe*, David Mamet's *The Sermon*, Robert Patrick's *Something New*, and Laura McHale's *The Perfect Couple*.

• **Tristan**: stage performance, Gill Theater, Fulton and Cole Sts., S.F., 8 PM, cover. Medieval rock musical featuring pop songs from the '50s and '60s. Call 928-9869 for reservations.

• **Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well and Living in Paris**: cabaret, 132 Bush, 132 Bush St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$10. Starring Ruth Hastings.

SATURDAY 11

• **AIDS Support Project**: open house, The Pacific Center for Human Growth, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 2 to 5 PM. Food and beverages.

• **Saturday Night Social**: potluck party, Midgett's, 437 Webster St., S.F., 7 PM. An opportunity to meet Pat Norman, candidate for San Francisco Supervisor. Bring food and friends. Call 864-0876 for reservations and more information.

• **A Little Lite Music**: music, Fire's, Guerneville, 3:30 to 5:30 PM, free. The Sierra String Quartet performs as part of a series sponsored by the Miller Brewing Co. in recognition of the achievements of the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band.

• **Scrabble Game Night**: sponsored by the Fraternal Order of Gays, The FOG House, 2038 22nd Ave., S.F., 8 PM. Refreshments served.

• **Tom Ammiano**: comedy, San Francisco International Stand-up Comedy Competition, The Keystone, 260 California St., Palo Alto, 9:15 PM, cover. Come and cheer on the only Gay comedian in the competition.

• **Terri Cowick**: music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 9 and 10:30 PM, \$6.

• **Woodstuff for Kids**: workshop, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 2 PM, free. A multi-media presentation on woodworking for young children.

• **Eastbay Lesbian/Gay Runners' Club**: run, Alameda Beach. Meet at 10 AM at the corner of 8th and Central. Brunch at coffeehouse follows. For more information call 526-7315 or 843-4968.

• **Renaissance Pleasure Faire**: Black Point Forest in Novato, Marin County, 10 AM to 6 PM, \$10.50. A

He's Back! Charles Pierce returns to the Fairmont's Ven-
engagement.

Celebration of the History of Sports tops the 18th an-
nual recreation of a 16th century English country fair.

• **K-RA-ZY for Gershwin**: stage performance (see Fri-
day listing for details).

• **San Francisco Mime Troupe**: stage performance,
Golden Gate Park Panhandle, S.F., 2 PM, free. The
troupe will perform its election carol, 1985.

• **Floating By**: dance and trapeze (see Friday listing
for details).

• **Ikke, Ikke, Nye, Nye, Nye**: stage performance (see
Friday listing for details).

• **Slipshod Suchness: An American Backstroke**: stage
performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Gay Comedy Night**: with alternating emcees Tom
Ammiano and Marga Gomez, Valencia Rose, 766
Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5.

• **Two Acts for the Deaf Yak**: stage performance (see
Friday listing for details).

• **Paradise Is Closing Down**: stage performance (see
Friday listing for details).

• **The Annual St. Valentine's Day Zin Tasting**: stage
performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Tristan**: stage performance (see Friday listing for
details).

• **Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well and Living in Paris**:
cabaret (see Friday listing for details).

SUNDAY 12

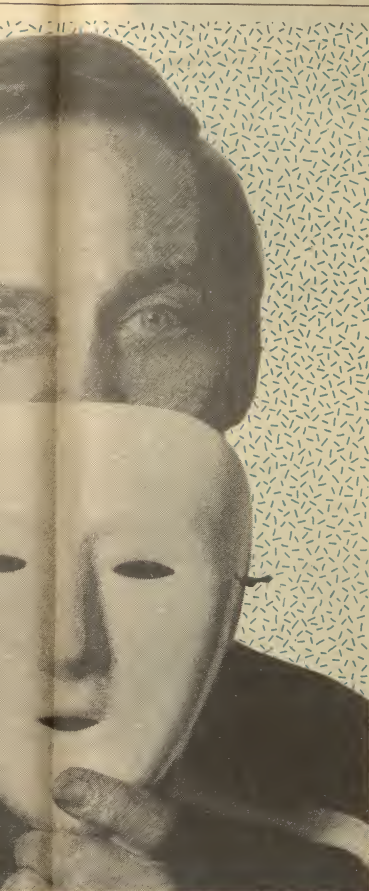
• **Ole!**: brunch, Don Ramon's Mexican Restaurant,
225 11th St., S.F., 11 AM to 3 PM, \$10. San Fran-
cisco Supervisors Richard Hongisto and Louise Renne
will join forces with Empress Remy Martin and Emperor
Rich Carle in a So/M benefit for the San Francisco Band
Foundation. Call 621-5619 for tickets.

• **Stray Dog Story**: reading, Walt Whitman Bookshop,
2319 Market St., S.F., 8 PM. Robert Chesley's play
read by Harvey Hand and Robert Chesley. Call
861-3078 for reservations.

• **Angel Island Picnic**: sponsored by the Fraternal
Order of Gays. Call 753-6786 for more information and
reservations.

• **Bruce Mermazen**: speaker at the Unitarian-
Universalist Gay and Lesbian Caucus meeting, First
Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St., S.F., 2 PM. The
Ragtime Band Man on the Era Created in Music and

WEEK



at's Venetian Room beginning Tuesday for a two-week return

TUESDAY 14

- **Charles Pierce**: stage performance, Venetian Room, Fairmont Hotel, S.F., 9:30 and 11:30 PM, cover. Pierce and his creations are back on Nob Hill by popular demand.
- **Resorts for Sex Perverts: A Political History of Lesbian and Gay Bars in San Francisco (1930-1965)**: lecture, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$4. Lecture by Allan Berube as part of the Gay and Lesbian Pioneers history series.
- **Adele Zane**: music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 9 and 10:30 PM, \$5.
- **Alicia Daniels**: music, Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St. at Bush, S.F., 6 PM, \$3.
- **Oberlin Dance Collective/San Francisco**: dance, Zellerbach Playhouse, S.F., 8 PM, \$10. Two alternating programs will be performed.
- **International Folk Dancing**: dance class, Nova Academy, 347 Dolores St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, \$2. No pre-registration necessary. Call 552-8413 for more information.
- **Ginger Doss**: music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, free.

WEDNESDAY 15

- **Charles Pierce**: stage performance (see Tuesday listing for details).
- **Federal Lesbians and Gays**: meeting, Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St. at Bush, S.F., 6 PM. A panel discussion on What Your Boss Never Told You will be held. No host cocktails. For more information call 626-7273.
- **Francesca Dubie and Miki Petrillo**: music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$4. With David Schlaffman.
- **Morgana King**: music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 8:30 and 10:30 PM, \$10. Two drink minimum.
- **Lady Bianca**: music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, free.
- **Elliot Bound**: playreading, Studio Rhino, 2926 16th St., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$3. Written by Marke Jaffe Cohen, directed by John Karr.
- **Fruit Punch**: radio, KPFA (94.1 FM), 10 PM. Jon Sugar's birthday special with guest Adam Brock, music editor of *The Advocate*, music by the Bronski Beat, Frankie Goes to Hollywood, The Smiths, and Divine.
- **Oberlin Dance Collective/San Francisco**: dance (see Tuesday listing for details).
- **Writing Workshop**: for seniors 60 and older, 7:30 PM. Conducted by George Birimisa, sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Call 431-6254 for address and more information.

THURSDAY 16

- **Charles Pierce**: stage performance (see Tuesday listing for details).
- **Dr. Tim Wolfred**: fundraiser, 180 St. Germain Ave., S.F., 6 to 8 PM, \$100. To benefit the re-election campaign of the first Gay member of the San Francisco Community College District Board. Call 558-9700 for more information.
- **Morgana King**: music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 8:30 and 10:30 PM, \$10. Two drink minimum.
- **K-RA-ZY for Gershwin**: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Fun Run**: sponsored by SuperNutrition Vitamins and Au Naturel health food store, polo grounds, Golden Gate Park, S.F., 6:30 PM, free. Three miles. Meet at the south end of the polo grounds on Middle Drive.
- **Oberlin Dance Collective/San Francisco**: dance (see Tuesday listing for details).
- **Two Acts for the Deaf Yak**: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Leopard Set**: music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, free.
- **The Annual St. Valentine's Day Zin Tasting**: stage performance, \$5 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Tristan**: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris**: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

MONDAY 13

- **4th Down**: music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM, cover. Featuring Bonnie Hayes.
- **Lee DeLaria and Jeannine Strobel**: comedy, Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St. at Bush, S.F., 6 PM, cover.
- **Gay Comedy Open Mike**: with co-emcees Suzy Berger, Doug Holsclaw, and Mario Mondelli, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$2. Performer sign-up at 7:30 PM.
- **Del Rey and the Blue Gators**: music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, free.

The Gay Area Reporter welcomes organization, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 PM on Thursday.

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BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

B.A.R. INTERVIEW

Fascinating Fairy, You Got Me On The Go

Traversing the Careers of Sam Steward

by Mike Hippler

I was fresh out of college and teaching high school in the wilds of western Virginia when I first heard of Phil Andros. Because the nearest Gay bar was 60 miles away and there were no other "known homosexuals" in the community, I was desperate for any kind of contact with the Gay world. Consequently, when I ran across an anthology of Gay short stories called *Different* in far-off Washington, D.C., I devoured it instantly. Four of the stories were by and about a man named Phil Andros and concerned his adventures as a hustler in various cities across America. Although these stories were not as graphically pornographic as others I was to discover later, they did provide the wherewithal for many a pleasant afternoon in the weeks to come. Phil Andros became a hero of mine, and I couldn't wait to escape my high school slavery and follow his path into the very heart of the Gay subculture.

I was browsing through a bookstore on Market Street earlier last year when I first heard of Sam Steward in the form of his *Chapters from an Autobiography*. Flipping through, I saw pictures of Gertrude Stein and Thornton Wilder and read something about tattooing and hustlers, which all seemed interesting enough, but then I saw the name Phil Andros and was riveted to the spot. I bought the book at once and found out in a moment that this Sam Steward and Phil Andros were one and the same — that the hustler whose adventures had stirred me so was no flesh and blood gigolo but merely the product of the writer's imagination. I might have been disappointed, but I soon discovered that the life of Sam Steward is even more interesting than that of his literary creation, and I threw over the literary character for the real one. Recently I arranged to meet Steward, and an interview confirmed what I had already discovered for myself — that the life of this self-styled "Senior Fairy" has been one of amazing richness and diversity, encompassing at least two continents, several careers, scores of remarkable acquaintances, and more sexual encounters than are possible to count.

Steward grew up in a small Ohio town in the '20s and became a disciple of "the love that dare not speak its name" while in his teens. He had sex with traveling salesmen in his aunts' boarding house, with an older boy, the "town sheik," in the bell tower of the courthouse, and with other friends in the town cemetery and the balcony of the Methodist Church. Later, he wrote an essay on Walt Whitman's homosexuality as part of the entrance requirements for Ohio State University — in 1927! After college he taught in West Virginia, Montana, Washington, and Chicago, where he continued to bed cowboys, sailors, teachers, and students and also began a 17-year binge as an alcoholic.

Steward admits candidly that he was a "literary groupie, early vintage." In 1934 he met the poet Hamlin Garland, who had known Walt Whitman, and Steward linked himself to the great Whitman by asking Garland to lay a hand on top of his head. Later, in 1937, he made a literary pilgrimage to Europe

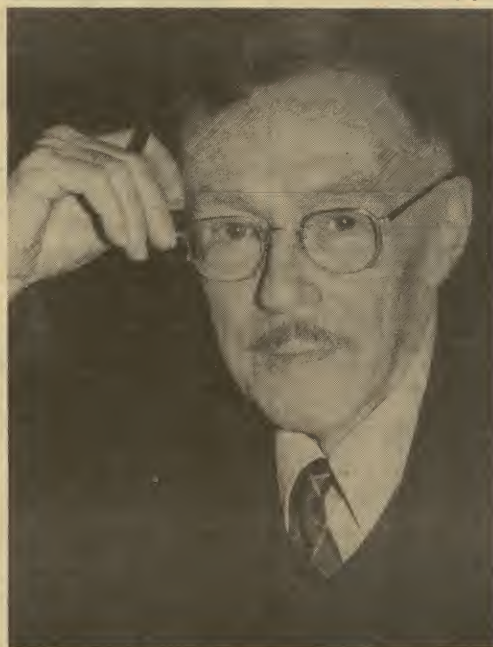
and linked himself to Oscar Wilde in a much more direct manner. He gave a blow job to Wilde's lover, Lord Alfred Douglas, who by now was a "thoroughly unpleasant old man." He went on from Douglas to meet Andre Gide in Paris, who presented him with a signed copy of one of his works and an Arab boy, Ali. Next came a two-week visit with Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas (whose name, Steward said, is mispronounced by everybody, which always irritated the hell out of poor Alice; it rhymes with jockless). They became great friends, and Steward visited Alice at Christmas every year from 1952 until her death in 1967.

After Gertrude and Alice, Steward spent a week with Thornton Wilder in Zurich. They went on a drunken binge together, after which Wilder wrote the last act of *Our Town*. He also became Wilder's regular "Chicago piece" and is the only person to have documented Wilder's homosexuality. "The others who could," he told me, "are either too closeted or dead." The most interesting of all the famous people Steward has met,

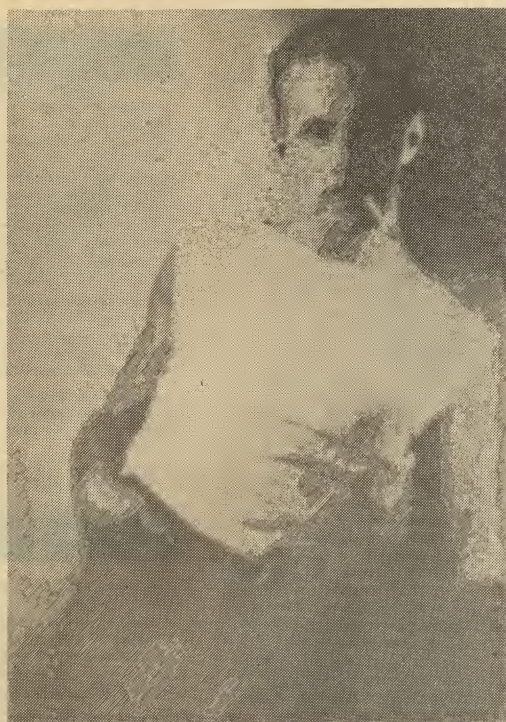
however, was Thomas Mann. After lunch one day, he asked Mann how he felt about homosexuality. "Nothing that is human is strange to me," Mann replied in Latin, and when Mann placed his arm around Steward, he felt as if "Zeus himself had touched me."

After twenty years of teaching, the two or three bright students that Steward found in every class weren't enough to compensate for the boredom, and he gave it all up to become a tattoo artist named Phil Sparrow. This was a step upward for him, for it gave him the chance "to hold those beautiful biceps in my hands." For a while his teaching and tattooing periods overlapped, and at four Steward would desert the halls of academia while "Sparrow" put on his black sweater and sailor pants, traveled down to State Street's skid row, and mingled with the boot sailors and truck drivers who came into his shop to be tattooed. Very few homosexuals got tattooed in those days, Steward told me. An inveterate record keeper, he said that of the first 50,000 tattoos he gave, only 40 were to overt

(Continued on next page)



Samuel Steward



Samuel Steward as a young man

Parisian Lives

Parisian Lives
by Samuel M. Steward
St. Martin's Press; \$12.95

by Brian Jones

He's a master of his craft. To compare Samuel Steward with most contemporary writing is to compare Reubens with paint-by-number. Like Reubens' paintings, Steward's prose is voluptuous, sensuous, alluring. He paints the page with a vivid vocabulary, but never becomes garish or over-written. He shades his characters with just the right mixture of explanation and mystery, and in so doing, gives them dimension and depth.

He could write about anything, and I would read it, and I would love it, because his writing is art.

In this book, Steward writes about a man willing to die — and kill — for art. Life on the razor's edge for Sir Arthur Lyly keeps us on the edge of our seats for most of 215 pages. How far will he go? How far will he push? All the way — and then some. In so doing, Steward peels away the innocence of the human condition and, finally, reveals the base core.

As each ruse is skillfully stripped away, like one more layer of the onion, we wonder, can there be more? Of course there can. The core of the onion is most foul — the core of Sir Arthur's character most corrupt.

But that's just the plot. There are other reasons to read this book. Style has been mentioned. Genre is another. Gay identity, too, is here.

Steward, of late, seldom writes anything without visiting Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas either at the Paris flat or

their bungalow in eastern France. This is more than mere smarminess — insider's stuff. It gives us a sense of a whole genre, a whole literary lineage, and draws us into the quite sophisticated sensibilities of the drawing room at Bilignin, where Gertrude and Alice held court.

Some of the great literary talents of a great literary age passed through that drawing room. It was salon society of the highest level. It was the time of the Algonquin Round Table of Benchley, Parker, et al in New York; of Helman and Hammett; of Hemingway (who, delightfully, is described by Gertrude as having a penchant for boys); of Isherwood in Berlin. The world was on the move and full of portent in those days — and so were the writers.

Steward, with this book, rightfully claims his place among the bright lights of that genre. And by writing unabashedly about Gay life of the period (guess what? It could well be Folsom Street 1979) he helps us reclaim our rightful share of the heritage of English-language literature.

Steward has some real butch problems, which readers having a queen's sensibility (like me) will find offensive. Butch Gays are great, but boy does Steward savage the nellys. Some of the lines would seem to be straight from the pages of that shameless homophobe, Papa Hemingway. But I can tolerate Steward's prose because he's upfront, where Hemingway was not. And, because Steward is a better writer. Ha! There. I said it.

Those lucky enough to read this book will find its themes of Gay life in the '30s hauntingly familiar today. Such transcendent prose is the very nature of classic literature. *Parisian Lives* is indeed a classic. ■

Gay Arts Comes of Age

by Charles Linebarger

It's taken 38 years, but finally San Francisco's Gay community has been included as a distinct segment of the city's annual art show. In a converted chapel at the Pride Center — itself a former convent — San Francisco's Gay and Lesbian community has its first exhibition in connection with the San Francisco Art Commission's 38th Annual Art Festival.

A troupe of local entertainers — including Sharon McNight, Faye Carol, Terri Cowick, Napata Mero, Leola Jiles, Jae Ross, Bettina, the San Francisco Tap Troupe, and the Rainbow Flag Corps — was on hand to lend a certain panache to the show's opening reception last Thursday night.

Perhaps with all the entertainment hoopla, the art works themselves were somewhat upstaged. If that was so, it was a case of misplaced priorities, because we were there to look at Gay and Lesbian art, to meet the artists and celebrate the opening of an art show for the community.

Ninety-three works by 37 artists are included in the exhibit. A number struck my interest.

"Bill's Visit" by Robert Morgan is a large oil painting of two adolescents sitting in a sunny living room looking at each other with half-smiles on their faces. The sun coming through the windows on the edge of the painting is reflecting off their faces and clothes. It's a very relaxed, domestic scene, redolent of youthful friendship and perhaps love.

Morgan has a similar painting, in style and composition, in the Pride Center's small exhibition space at the main art exhibit in the Civic Center. This one is of two handsome young men — a man and an adolescent? — sitting with a family dog in a relaxed living room grouping with an unused fireplace in the background. It's called "Afternoon Ritual."

Gregory Brouse has three paintings at the Pride Center Show titled "Bar Scene," "Skid Row," and "Separation." All are done in vivid, pretty colors. Each depicts a very unpretty scene of despair and human waste. Irrelevant religious symbols appear through the canvases. They are strange pictures — pretty, colorful paintings of tragically gray scenes. Brouse has another picture on show in the Civic Center called "Dreams of an Artist." In this one a naked artist with his back to us, complete with devil's horns and tail, is painting a woman in red Victorian drag who is holding a bleeding head by the hair. They are in an artist's studio filled with naked models, stray roses, completed canvases and other flotsam of the artist's life. It's an extremely busy picture.

I was especially taken with a small oil painting titled "Greece," by David Plott Owen. Amid a ruined classical temple, under the vivid light of sunny Greece, a white-suited artist is painting a captivating, young, bearded man. The smooth-skinned model is shown in the nude from the peak of his rounded buns. The light glistens off his creamy, curving body as if it were polished ivory. A lunch of wine, fruit, and cheese awaits the pair on the grass. It's a sensually enchanting picture, as light as candy floss, and as transparently beautiful as a summer day.

The Pride Center building is worth a visit in itself. It has the institutional feel of a late Vic-



Robert Morgan (r.) and his 'Afternoon Ritual.' (Photo: Rink)

torian mansion. The show, being the first of its kind, deserves the community's attention. After all, these are our artists,

and there is no reason why the beauty and grace that Gay and Lesbian artists and craftsmen have lavished on mainstream

culture for centuries should not be turned back to beautify and grace our own lives as Gay people. ■

Sam Steward

(Continued from previous page)

homosexuals. This changed, however, with the advent of S&M in the mid-1950s. The leather boys loved tattoos, but while the M's took it well, the S's fainted.

Steward's own involvement with S&M, incidentally, dates back to 1937 when he answered an ad in the *Saturday Review of Literature*, of all places, which stated simply, "Ex-sailor wonders if flogging should be permitted." This opened up the New York leather scene to him, which was very underground at the time and quite dangerous. "You never knew if you'd wake up alive or dead when you took a truck driver in leather home in those days," he said. After a while he quit the leather scene, for "one gets worn out. Anybody who stays in the leather world for over ten years should have his head examined."

When Chicago raised the legal age for tattooing from 18 to 21, Steward moved to Berkeley and set up shop in Oakland, where he became the "official" tattooist for the Hell's Angels. After several thousand more tattoos and three strong-arms in his shop he left the business. Some of his tattoos have never left him, however — the ones on his own body. Among them are what he fondly calls a "dickybird," which is a winged phallus looped by a rope (to show his sexual proclivities) with a rose in the center (to show his soft heart). Although Steward no longer tattoos others, many of his former pupils still practice the art, among them Cliff Raven and Ed Hardy, who he calls the best tattooists in the

Bay Area.

Steward first started writing pornography in 1958 when the editor of *Der Kreis*, a softcore Gay porn magazine published in Germany, "teased me into writing for him." *Der Kreis*, however, was full of "sloppy, sentimental, sweet, saccharin stuff with lots of sighing and hand-shaking." Steward wanted to write more realistically, so he was referred to a publisher in Denmark, where the first Phil Andros stories appeared. His first collection of these stories, *Stud*, was copyrighted in 1966, but because his publisher had himself committed to St. Elizabeth's, the mental hospital where Ezra Pound was incarcerated, to avoid prosecution on obscenity charges, the first edition of *Stud* didn't appear until 1969 — and it was published at last by a well-known local name, J. Brian.

According to Steward, he never got any feedback on the Andros stories and had no indication that anyone had ever read them until an *Advocate* article disclosed the real name of the author in 1977. Then, he said, it was a great shock to find that writers such as Felice Picano and Edmund White had grown up on these stories. He swears that 85% of the stories are true, and as for any similarities between the hustler and his creator, he only states, "I wish I had known him." Steward does admit he has never been a hustler himself — except once, when the vice-president of National Cash Register gave him \$10 in 1926 for the pleasure of his

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TALES OF TESSI TURA

Bringing Up Baby

GEORGE HEYMONT

One of the curious byproducts of living in a Gay ghetto is that one's life progress is no longer measured by the growth of one's offspring. The time warp which results often fosters the illusion of thousands of beautiful, ageless men who live in Never-Never-Land with Peter Pan and his band of lost boys.

Indeed, those of us who forsook active breeding in pursuit of our own goals sometimes seem to have forgotten what it means to be measured by straight society's yardstick of aging — the children. I was recently reminded of this phenomenon during a performance of Gilbert & Sullivan's *Patience*, as two noticeably single and artistic men fought to protect their aesthetic turf.

"Surely, you had a mother," demanded one poet, in hopes of appealing to his rival's soft spot.

"Never!" roared his opponent.

"Well, then, perhaps you had an aunt?" inquired the first man.

SING A SONG OF GESTATION

Since I belong to that part of the species which is known journalistically as "avowedly homosexual," I wondered what I could possibly find entertaining about *Baby*, a musical which follows three heterosexual couples through their attempts at procreation. Although there were many moments in the show when I felt like a stranger in a strange land, it proved fascinating to monitor a predominantly

Hooper, and Beth Fowler as the aging and pregnant Arlene MacNally. John Lee Beatty's quirkily inventive scenery was a fluid delight.

Enhanced by Jonathan Tunick's fine orchestrations, David Shire's score revealed some fascinating moments. I would strongly advise the more conscientious musical comedy queens in the crowd to make an honest effort to acquire the original cast album. There is some very talented writing in this show which

did, but in this case the fear of racial stereotypes haunting a modern Black family overshadowed any questions of a potential dancer's masculinity.

The infectious ebullience of the cast, coupled with Danny Daniels' intensely exciting tap numbers, prevents this show from becoming a sappy Black version of *Mother Knows Best*. Audiences have been building steadily, and, judging from the show's basic appeal, should continue to do so for quite some time. There is much about *The Tap Dance Kid* which is pure television sit-com kitsch, and, on many levels, it is little more than a longer episode of *The Jeffersons* with music. But the show rams home one important point with stunning clarity: that talent will out, and that if a youngster evidences exceptional prowess, a parent would do well to put his own fears aside and encourage the child to explore his creativity.

As the young wunderkind with hot feet, Alfonso Ribeiro was far less cloying than most stage children his age. Indeed, his dancing and genuine enthusiasm went a long way toward endearing him to the audience. But the show really belongs to Hinton Battle, who, as Ribeiro's tap-dancing uncle, could melt the meanest heart with his sympathetic acting and superb hoofing. Backed by Alan Weeks and



Hinton Battle's footwork sets the audience on fire in *Tap Dance Kid*.

straight audience's reaction to the musical depiction of athletic sperm cells traveling through an erect penis in hopes of achieving a field goal. To me, this was old jerk-off material seen in a new and strangely incongruous context.

In many ways, Sybille Pearson's book results from one thin joke stretched about eight months too far. However, the joys, fears, and burdens of incumbent parenthood (translate that as commitment and responsibility) do touch upon issues of cohabitation which are common to straights and Gays alike. In *Baby*, the subtle tugs of war, defiant ego trips, and private moments of introspection were all laid out onstage for examination by the general public. Each person's hopes, doubts, expectations, and sorrows were deftly revealed with manipulative skill through the vehicle of music theater.

Of the three marriages depicted onstage, only two went the full distance to the delivery room. One couple proved unable to conceive despite the female partner's willingness to remain with her legs over her head for an hour before attempted coitus — a position more universal than some men would like to admit. The most appealing performances came from Michael Brian as the young Danny

deserves recognition and appreciation. Unfortunately, *Baby* expired less than nine months after its opening night fertilization on Broadway. Although the right-to-lifers would have loved it, slow ticket sales, and perhaps a genuine lack of interest, kept this particular musical fetus from coming to full term.

GOTTA DANCE!

That some parents might still be hung up enough on sexual roles to worry about letting their little boys pursue a career in dance seems inconceivable. But the old fear that "My dancing son's a faggot" still exists. Ever since Sammy Williams' poignant monologue in *A Chorus Line*, I've been curious to see when another Broadway show would take the question one step further. *The Tap Dance Kid*

young Ribeiro, Battle's feet set the stage of the Minskoff Theatre on fire, provoking more genuine excitement than I've seen on Broadway in quite some time. Young Martine Allard, though mammoth, displayed a rambunctious personality and a Merman-like set of pipes.

An additional bonus is the ingenious way in which Mark Feldstein's photography has been merged with the scenic designs of Michael Hotopp and Paul de Pass to give audiences a nonstop tour of the streets of New York. The technical work here is a far cry from the early days of *West Side Story*, and the dancing is of quite a different genre. But if you're in New York and have a passion for old-fashioned tap dancing, rest assured that *The Tap Dance Kid* is worth a visit. I heartily recommend it. ■

WILD AND WOOLLY

BOB WOOLHOUSE

A. J. Langley: "The chief business of this glorious commonwealth of morons is not as H. L. Menken went on to say, 'the mass production of heroes, mainly bogus,' but rather the mass production of dull tools, bent fenders, and things that don't work, like cops and politicians. And Billy Grahams."

Dr. Joseph Fletcher, Harvard Theologian: "Married unlove — which is legalized access to sex — can be far less rewarding than unmarried love."

Truman Capote: "Meaningful dialogue can be defined as an affirmative, one word response (usually 'yes') after a brief, intense bar conversation."

Big Race Sparks Interest Among SF Pop Music Fans

In the short history of The Big Race, the group has grown from a new and unknown local band to a more prominent stature in the Bay Area club scene. This phenomenon is based primarily on word-of-mouth publicity garnered from rock rans, who most likely heard the group first as a warm-up act during the year and a half it's been playing together.

Aside from concert appearances, the group's accessibility has been, and remains limited to, demo tapes played on KUSF and KQAK — most notably its hit, "Hands On Ice," which has been shot on video but is still unavailable to record buyers.

The likelihood of that accessibility changing is minimal at best until, the group says, it gets what it wants. What the group wants is a major label record deal, and the band insists it will settle for nothing less.

The group's ambition may sound blind, but its musical appeal backs up that "nothing but the best" attitude. At the same time, the band's interesting material and strong musician-ship prove it's not just arrogance that makes its members insistent about a major label — they can deliver if the chance comes along.

Although The Big Race is planning an L.A. excursion in hopes of being seen and heard by major label scouts, it has several shows scheduled around the Bay Area for the next month. By holding out for a good record deal, the band may be gambling against the odds, but its willingness to hang on for the right

situation shows more gutsiness than most new bands, many of whom are happy just to be able to pool enough resources together to press a single.

THE POLITICS OF NONVIOLENT DANCING

The band's music is very danceable, but that driving beat is not all The Big Race is after. Its lyrics — best described by vocalist Dan Wul as espousing political messages centered around "nonviolence," and ambiguous philosophical observations — interject a strange, eclectic consciousness throughout its driving pop instrumentation.

But the lyrics, not totally discernible in concert, are quite enigmatic, and open to various interpretations, lifting its poetry to a height of ambiguity that is puzzling in parts and seemingly meaningless in others. The group's political/dance music combination offers it two potentially different audiences — dance music fans and rock analysts, including critics, who ceaselessly dissect and categorize new bands for easy indexing. Unfortunately for the intellectually curious, The Big Race's ambiguity, and its eventual niche in the pop music field, is not yet identifiable.

The Big Race, the band's moniker, is an undefined reference in itself. It has been interpreted as a reference to the human race, but the band stands behind no absolute interpretation of its name. Complicating matters even more, the band is in the process of changing



The Big Race

ing that name.

SEXUAL AMBIGUITY

The ambiguity of some lyrics may stem from the cohesive, but strong, individualistic nature of the four member of Big Race, all of whom provide input into the group's material. While they expressed a dominant interest in their new music and its lyrical politics, the band's members have yet to deal with the politics of sexuality in their material. Ironically, the band is comprised of a mixed bag of sexually oriented individuals — a subject the group's manager insisted on skipping.

In a city where sexuality is politics, powerful politics at that, the band's musical asexuality, like its political ambiguity, will unlikely surface in some other form. For now that asexuality is both a help and a hindrance.

On the one hand, it gives the group's members an opportunity to avoid categorization as individuals on a sexual preference basis, and it allows them to be accepted or rejected on the criterion that matters to them — their music.

On the other hand, the success of gender-bending rock and rollers, from Bowie's debut to the ever-increasing contemporary gang of bisexual and Gay artists — Boy George, The Smiths, Frankie Goes To Hollywood, etc. — makes one wonder why The Big Race, and half the other bands in this city, don't just put on some makeup simply for its current marketing potential.

BIG RACE IN PERFORMANCE

Each of the four musicians (Dan Wul, lead vocals and guitar; Paul Trupin, guitar and vocals; Jim Woody, drums and keyboards; and Dodie Shoemaker, bass) brings a strong musical individuality to the stage without detracting from The Big Race as a cohesive unit.

Although Wul commands center stage as lead vocalist, and creates the band's interesting visual presence with his interpretive body language and Bowie-like androgyny, he does not shadow anyone else's contribution to the band's performance. His animation instead works well to offset the almost serious, get-the-job-done-right attitudes projected by the other musicians, who wisely keep clear of Wul's flailing gestures when he bursts into emotional overtures.

Shoemaker — who unfortunately has, according to other band members, acquired a bad

taste for the press and was not present during a recent interview — tends to keep a low profile. At least it seemed so at a recent gig at the Stone, where she remained very, very stage left. But her gutsy bass playing is strong and skillful, melding dramatically into the music, in spite of the fact that she projects a desire to be heard and not seen.

Trupin, whose off-stage gregariousness is the antithesis of the sobriety he projects while working, seems to kindle the honesty and communication necessary in successful bands and very present in The Big Race, as musicians and apparently as friends. He comes off like the backbone of the group, but he did take an energetic and expressive moment upfront as lead vocalist on one song during the Stone show. Perhaps Trupin is not the glue that binds The Big Race. If not, he is at least the band's best salesman.

Drummer Jim Woody, whose steady rhythmic drumming sets the pace for the band — and for the dancers in the audience — maintains a quiet demeanor both on and off stage. This conversation leaves an impression of limited participation in the creative process of The Big Race. But, to the contrary, Woody plays an integral part in that process, and actually has the most formal musical training among members of the group.

Since the band does not use keyboards in performance — Woody's other instrumental addition to the band — much of his contribution to the music is either captured on its demo tapes — left behind after practice at a South of Market rehearsal studio — or shines through the performance of the other members he has provided input for.

"Hands On Ice," which remains the group's most notable song due to radio airplay, is not necessarily its strongest effort. But it is representative of The Big Race, as a pop dance band, at its best.

The band's more enigmatic material, best seen through the lyrics and tone of "American Dreamland," seems more indicative of its potential and more definitive of its style and direction.

American Dreamland

Running down American Dreamland
Drowning in progress
City lights without fire
Screaming like monkeys
You swing from your father's
genitals . . .
And you're the only love I've ever
known
Surround me since I was born

While the political viewpoint is elusive when taken out of context in this stanza from "American Dreamland," the band's delivery of it somehow pulls it all together. That's talent! ■

GayWHOgayWHATGayWHEREGay

Cloggers Make Good

The Barbary Coast Cloggers, on its way to New Orleans to be the only Gay group to entertain at the 1984 World Exhibition there, received a proclamation from Mayor Dianne Feinstein for its efforts.

The group, which will perform at the world's fair August 12, was hailed in the proclamation for its annual Christmas Show at Laguna Honda Hospital, raising funds to combat AIDS, and helping the city's senior citizens, among other altruistic efforts.

"The Barbary Coast Cloggers are a model of exemplary public services, and San Francisco is delighted to convey its deep and abiding appreciation for their commitment to excellence and unwavering dedication to the well-being of our entire community," the proclamation said in part. ■

Gay Masterpieces

A course on Masterpieces of Gay and Lesbian Literature in Western Civilization will be offered at the City College of San Francisco's Castro/Everett Center this fall.

The writing of Sappho, Plato, Theokritos, Catullus, Virgil, Shakespeare, Marlowe, A.E. Housman, E.M. Forster, and Constantine Cavafy will be studied in the cultural contexts of late 19th and early 20th century Europe, Elizabethan England, Augustan Rome, and Classical/Hellenistic Greece.

The course, English 55-B, will meet on Mondays from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. and will yield three units of university parallel credit. The first class will meet August 20. The instructor will be Don Liles, of City College's Department of English.

Tuition for those enrolled only for this course will be \$15. Pre-enrollment applications are available at the Walt Whitman Bookshop, 2319 Market St. ■

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FILM CLIPS

REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY AND STEVE WARREN

Grandview U.S.A.

My Kind of Town

Teenage fantasy, redneck rowdiness, small town soap opera, and rock video combine in *Grandview U.S.A.*, a movie that tries to please everybody, and will probably please no one but me.

The citizens of Grandview, Illinois, have a positive attitude toward their town, even if life isn't going well for them there. This gives them a charm and dignity rarely found when Hollywood visits middle America. The movie itself is half over before anyone so much as mentions leaving, and then it's the would-be "next Jacques Cousteau" who loves his town but can't stand being landlocked.

He's C. Thomas Howell, the cute "Ponyboy" of *The Outsiders*, who has shed some of the baby fat he gained for *Tank*. He watches MTV and dreams himself into the lead of the videos, thus assuring promotional airplay for the movie's lame score.

Howell's main fantasy is Jamie Lee Curtis — and when she starts playing "the older woman" we know none of us are getting any younger. She runs her late father's demolition derby and has a butch look that will appeal to some Lesbians.



"Scream Queen." Jamie Lee Curtis doesn't even utter a squeal of delight as she stands between C. Thomas Howell (L.) and Patrick Swayze in *Grandview U.S.A.*

Perhaps we can arrange to double-date with Howell and her.

Curtis is waiting to see if Patrick Swayze will get out of his marriage to town tramp Jennifer Jason Leigh, who is fooling around with Troy Donahue,

the one-time heartthrob who looks now like a supporting zombie from the Thriller video.

There's an unusually solid supporting cast for this sort of picture — mostly adults, as Howell is the only major teen-aged character. He and Swayze

also appear together in *Red Dawn*, which opens this week. It may not mean anything, but not even Tracy and Hepburn ever had two co-stars released so close together!.

(Coliseum, Stonestown) S. Warren

Careful He Might Hear You

PS, They Love You

Thank God Gay men have maternal instincts so we can appreciate an old-fashioned "woman's picture" like *Careful He Might Hear You*. After a man and a woman fought over child custody in *Kramer vs. Kramer*, and two men in *Table for Five*, two women fight for a seven-year-old boy in this Australian drama. Based on a book by Aussie-born New York novelist Sumner Locke Elliott, the film won last year's "Best Picture" award in its home country.

An excellent soundtrack spares us problems with accents, as well as whispered dialogue in line with the film's title. Actually, young "PS" hears — and understands — more than anyone gives him credit for. His poor Aunt Lila and Uncle George have raised him since his mother died in childbirth, but his wealthy Aunt Vanessa has come back from England to demand partial custody, with an eye toward taking him away altogether.

Set in the Depression, *Careful He Might Hear You* is openly socialistic in its viewpoint. The poor are shown as honest, virtuous, and loving. The rich are selfish schemers. Vanessa wants PS because she had the hots for his father, but was too repressed to

yield to him when she had the opportunity. She sees the boy as her second chance, and can't wait until he's old enough.

When the father puts in a brief but significant appearance, he's dismayed to find Vanessa "trying to turn (the boy) into a polite little sissy." Actually, the kid's got a good head start, with one of the most pronounced lisps I've ever heard — and God knows I've heard some lisps! — and heavy eyeliner emphasizing his baby blues. Nicholas Gledhill gives an excellent

performance in this difficult role, and Wendy Hughes (Vanessa) and Robyn Nevin (Lila) are fine as his aunts.

The lushness of the music and photography are as anachronistic as some of the sentiment in *Careful He Might Hear You*. A number of intriguing scenes raise the film above the soap opera level, but the two styles are in frequent conflict. The result is good, though not totally satisfying for anyone.

(Clay) S. Warren



Torn Between Two Mothers. Nicholas Gledhill triggers sibling rivalry between Wendy Hughes (L.) and Robyn Nevin in *Careful He Might Hear You*.

One Night Stands

Films of Gay Interest This Coming Week
by Michael Benzry

Thursday, August 9: (Strand) See shameless Gay pornography publicly shown at popular prices. Sex Magic with Mandingo, with Brian's Boys with Brian's boys.

Friday, August 10: (UC Theatre) Caligula. Ancient Rome interpreted by Penthouse magazine. A few seconds of Gay and Lesbian sex, many hours of boredom. A great rip-off.

Wednesday, August 16: (Strand) Kamikaze '89. Futuristic cop in leopard suit (Rainer Werner Fassbinder) tries to stop a bombing. Out of this world. Appearance by Frank Ripplhof of Taxi Zum Klo. With The Tin Drum.

Thursday, August 16: (Strand) The First San Francisco Gay Erotic Film Festival with Bubble Boys, Tattoo, It Was About 9', The Place Between Our Bodies, Broughton and Singer's Devotions and Curt McDowell's Loads. This should be fun. Loads finds Curt asking straight men to jack off on film. He proceeds to seduce them.

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Photo by Jim Wigler

Of-Seen Old/Never Seen New

Chanel Solitaire

Media Home Entertainment
124 minutes, \$59.95 or by rental

Given a short, almost non-existent theatrical run, and then a brief encounter on cable TV, this fascinating and entertaining film about the life of famed French *haute couture* designer Gabrielle "Coco" Chanel has finally been released on videocassette. As Coco, Marie-France Pisier captures the rebellious spirit of a woman who was abandoned and raised in a Catholic orphanage and who went on to revolutionize women's fashions.

The film, directed by George Kaczender, often falls victim to trite melodramatics and camp hysterics. Love always eluded Coco. First her parents dumped her, then husband Timothy Dalton walks out. She tries some lesbian affairs, tinkers with the Duke of Westminster, and discovers the provocative perfume, Chanel No. 5.

Karen Black, as an affected actress paramour of Dalton's who teaches Chanel about sex, and Rutger Hauer, as Dalton's competitor for the love of

Chanel, keep us convinced that this is based on fact — well, most of it is, anyway.

If you like clothes and you like movies, you'll like Chanel Solitaire. ■

Young and Willing

Monterey Home Video
84 minutes, \$39.95 or by rental

This frivolous piece of antique whimsy was first released in 1943 with a very young Susan Hayward and William Holden. Based on a play beloved by stock companies and school dramatic groups, it's the story of a group of aspiring actors and actresses who move into an apartment above one occupied by a famous Broadway producer — played with dry-witted asstringency by Robert Benchley. The shenanigans they pull to get his attention are by today's standards pretty tame stuff — silly even. Yet that's what makes this film such fun to watch — the sheer unassuming innocence, the attention paid to character acting, and the mockery of actors and acting.

No doubt about it, *Young*



Coco Chanel reflects upon herself.

and *Willing* is a relic of its age, but a lot of filmmakers could learn a few pointers on the art of gentle comedy from it. ■

Rear Window

MCA Videocassette
112 minutes, \$59.95 or by rental

Vertigo

MCA Videocassette
128 minutes, \$59.95 or by rental

Two of the five re-released Hitchcock films are now on videotape at long last. MCA meticulously transferred the films to tape, managing to take the widescreen Vistavision to

small screen size and not lose the master's images.

Rear Window plays even better on TV than in the theater because it is an intimate, almost claustrophobic, production to begin with. The TV screen makes us feel more like the voyeur, the eyes behind the lenses that Jimmie Stewart uses to spy on his Greenwich Village apartment courtyard neighbors. Grace Kelly is the walking definition of radiance — she positively glows here. Proving the genius of Hitchcock, this is a film that can be viewed repeatedly without any loss of sus-

pense, even when you know the outcome.

Vertigo has a more subdued Stewart who obsessively searches for and then recreates a lost love, Kim Novak. Hailed as Hitchcock's masterpiece, *Vertigo* is another picture that holds up on the small screen because of the basic tight fit of the story. The large screen diffuses some of the passion, and on tape we are better able to focus on Stewart's obsession that takes him throughout a richly photographed '50s San Francisco and Monterey coastline. ■



BARBARY COAST CLOGGERS

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

DIANNE FEINSTEIN

Greetings

On behalf of the people of the City and County of San Francisco, we are very pleased to express our heartfelt GREETINGS and sincere BEST WISHES to the BARBARY COAST CLOGGERS, who are an outstanding example of San Francisco's rich diversity of creative talents and who are performing at the 1984 World Exhibition in New Orleans on Sunday, August 12, 1984.

The people of San Francisco cherish this splendid opportunity to pay a richly deserved tribute to the BARBARY COAST CLOGGERS—particularly for such superb civic services as performing in the annual Christmas Show at Laguna Honda Hospital, raising funds to combat AIDS, and helping our City's senior citizens and other worthy causes in countless ways.

The BARBARY COAST CLOGGERS are a model of exemplary public services, and San Francisco is delighted to convey its deep and abiding appreciation for their commitment to excellence and unwavering dedication to the well-being of our entire community.

Have a wonderful time in New Orleans, and thank you, again, for your invaluable efforts to enhance and improve San Francisco's overall quality of life.



Dianne Feinstein
Mayor

1985

by Adele Prandini

Oh my, who among us is not getting older? As we approach, or live through, or pass our mid-life crisis, we can glance fondly back and smile upon our youthful activism.

Witness if you will the story of one Ebenezer Jones, a not-too-young successful lawyer, who after a hard day of screwing the powerless, retires to his comfy pad, envelops himself in silk pajamas, and feasts upon artful cuisine. After all this he sleeps, perchance to dream, and dream he does.

With a concept borrowed from Charles Dickens, the handsome, smooth Ebenezer is visited by three spirits. Spirit of the Past is really Dan Chumley, who does a wonderful Richard Nixon impersonation. Nixon proceeds to thank Ebenezer for his collusion. Being too radical to vote, our young Ebenezer helped Nixon enter the White House. The gifted Sharon Lockwood embodies the Spirit of the Present, none other than Nancy Reagan. Nancy, with her stiff smile, stiff body, and stiff feet, takes Ebenezer to visit three tropical allies. The colorful CIA-supported dictators are horribly funny and frightening, and have one of the best song and dance routines in the show. Ah, but time flies, and Ebenezer is piloted into the future by his now-grown daughter. It would not be fair to tell you what happens from this point on. You'll have to go and see for yourself.

This is one of the best productions I've seen the San Francisco Mime Troupe do. Gus Johnson as Ebenezer is wonderful. John-

son is a talented man. His performance is both engaging and endearing. He is fresh, funny, and fun to watch. The entire cast acts with plenty of umph. Their stylized performance mode is rich in detail, helping to make the message, "Get the hell out there and vote," perfectly palatable. I cannot close without saying something about the wonderful masks employed by the group, particularly those which represent the Supreme Court, a wonderful piece of workpersonship.

But, I do have one criticism. I could easily do without the fagot jokes. Lockwood, doing her Joan Rivers, warms to the audi-

ence with, "Ah, San Francisco. The only city where a man comes home from work and says, 'Hi, honey. I'm homo.'" Certainly this is done to make the homos and lezzies in the audience feel at home. I know that. I just wonder if the rest of the largely hetero audience knows it, too. Nah, I'm probably being too sensitive because I saw the show the same week a Gay man was killed on Polk Street. ■

1985

San Francisco Mime Troupe
Golden Gate Park Panhandle,
8/11, 2 p.m.
Mission Dolores Park,
8/8 & 19, 2 p.m.



The San Francisco Mime Troupe does 1985.

BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

G.S.L. UPDATE

John David Ferguson Gives Gutsy Performances

TOM VINDEED

Hold on, Moby Dick; I'll get to your stirring playoff win in a moment, but first a few words about J.D.

After rivaling Vivian Blaine in *Damn Yankees* in his performance at the Switch Hitters Ball, John David Ferguson gave one of the most memorable performances on the softball diamond the Gay Softball League has ever seen.

Playing second base for the Village for the absent Mark Warlick, this trimmed-down, silver-haired 46-year-old paced the Village to victory over a gutsy Rawhide crew. His performance was the talk of the day, and we all salute him. Way to go, J.D.!

Mark Wood's scrappy Moby Dick squad, playing with just nine men, turned back the Kokpit in two straight games, thereby eliminating the Kokfighters from championship play. In the first game, the "gang of nine" jumped on Mark Brown's offerings quickly, before the third out was made. The score was 7-0 Moby Dick. From there the Whalers coasted to a 12-5 victory.

The second game was something else. Down by a 13-11 score entering the final inning, Moby Dick reached down for that little extra, and came through again. With a runner on base and Frank De Fendis at bat, the Kokpit's leftfielder was told to move in a few steps, thinking that De Fendis could not or would not hit the ball that far. Surprise! The little dynamo whacked the ball over the fielder's head for a two-run homer, and the game was tied. Another base hit and Joe Lucinski's game-winning hit proved to be the difference as Moby Dick prevailed and moved into the semi-finals of the playoffs.

Word has it that Mark Brown will now retire gracefully. Can you imagine Mark Brown doing anything gracefully? Just getting ready for the roast, Mark.

The Kokpit did have a winner this weekend. Bill "Sparkle" McGruder won the Third Annual Switch Hitters Ball Saturday night. While I'm at it, I should mention that Steve Dryburgh of the Cafe Sn. Marcos finished second, and Mike Fitzen from the Ambush finished



Ron Ross (r.) auctions off items at the Gay Softball League benefit auction at the Kokpit. (Photo: Rink)

third. I'm not sure where he placed, but Art Jackson was fantastic as "April." Of course, all the contestants were great and it was a terrific night, as more than \$1,400 was given to the Shanti Project.

Getting back to softball, the Village defeated the Rawhide two games to one to advance to the semi-finals. Paced by the aforementioned John David Ferguson, the Village won by scores of 6-2, 2-7, and 7-2. Reads like a tennis match. The

surprising fact of the first two games was that the Village had a total of only nine hits. Either Russell Smith was brilliant, or the Village left its hitting shoes at home. The third and deciding game saw the Village get its hitting and defense all together as they eliminated the Cowboys, which had a great year in its first year together. You did a great job, Mike Dolan.

Speaking of great jobs, Bob Di Tulio pitched all three games for the Village and was, to say

the least, superb. Believe it or not, Francis got a hit.

This Saturday finds the semi-finals at balmy Balboa Park starting at 12 noon. The Village faces the Pendulum, while Moby Dick takes on the Ambush. The championship series will be Sunday, 12 noon, at Jackson Field.

We have been promised that at the playoffs the Ghostbusters will make a guest appearance. Be sure to get there early. ■

COMM. SOFTBALL LEAGUE

Slow Rush is In It's Cinch or Force

RODGER SOTO

As the Community Softball League of San Francisco 1984 horse race moves into the final stretch of the season, five teams have finally made it into playoff spots. In the Julie Jordan Division, it's Hot & Hunky, Everett's of San Francisco, and Slow Rush. In the Bill Chapman Division, it's Bunkhouse (Division Champs), Rainbow Cattle/BATS, and one berth to be determined next week. It will either be The Cinch with a 9 and 8 record or The Force with an 8 and 9 record. Each team has one more game next week, which will determine who will be the third place team in that division.

With the Olympics going on, and so much attention being paid to competition, it truly can be said, "the glory of victory and the agony of defeat" for the three teams which were knocked out of the playoffs last week. If you look at the scoreboard you can see it was true agony for Rockin' Robin, Nap's Peacock, and Jack's Happy Daze to be eliminated by very close scores.

Stephen Pozsgai's Slow Rush team was able to defeat Everett's of SF in a hard-fought defensive battle, with the Rushers winning 4 to 3. This important defeat stopped Everett's winning streak, and also clinched the third place slot for Slow Rush. Stephen pitched an excellent game, considering the gales that were blowing at the infamous Balboa Park. Gary Wiesenborn hit a sacrifice fly in the fifth inning, giving the Rushers the extra run they needed to win.

Other important defensive plays were made by Pozsgai, Louis Darrow, Jerry Miller, Ed Pugh, and Mark Lazro.

The other important winner of the day was Bob Finney's Cinch, with a double-header win over Nap's 7 to 6, and over Jack's 8 to 6. Again, it was the pitching of Cris Connley, with especially good infield defense, particularly by Neil Finney, who has come a long way since he started in the CSL when he was 18 years old.

The other team that made it into the playoffs was Carl McMurdo's Rainbow/BATS, with again the heart of the team Bobby Hartman, getting the important hits and throwouts, which gave the BATS its needed win. Bill Powers, who is a handsome, feisty redheaded rookie, had his usual great day.

As the day ended, and everyone rushed to get out of cold Balboa, the umpire, who had never seen us before, said he felt all of our teams looked like City League "A" teams, and he was right, all 10 teams are super.

CSL SCOREBOARD

Slow Rush	4	Everett's	3
Rainbow	4	Force	3
Cinch	7	Nap's	6
Bunkhouse	13	Rockin Robin	5
Cinch	8	Jack's	6
Hot & Hunky	5	Nap's	3

STANDINGS

Julie Jordan Division

Hot & Hunky*	12	5
Everett's*	11	6

Slow Rush*	9	8
Jack's Happy Daze	6	10
Nap's Peacock	5	12

Bill Chapman Division

Bunkhouse*	12	5
Rainbow/BATS*	9	8
Cinch	8	9
Force	7	10
Rockin Robin	5	11

* Have made playoffs

The final week of regular games will be played August 12 at Balboa Field:

12 noon - Slow Rush @ Hot & Hunky; Rainbow/BATS @ Bunkhouse

1:30 p.m. - Jack's @ Nap's; Cinch @ Rockin Robin

3:00 p.m. - Everett's @ Force; Rockin Robin @ Jack's



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steeple chase, javelin, and weight throwing (discus and shot put). Remember, few are experienced in many of these Elizabethan-style activities, so don't be shy.

Renaissance sportswear may be provided by the Faire.

Tickets for Gay Day at the Faire are discounted to \$8, and shuttle buses from the city (\$4) will run all day Labor Day. From each ticket sold, \$2 will go to the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee to help produce the 1985 San Francisco Parade the last Sunday in June. ■

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PHOTO: R. PRUZAN

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Pool League Shrinks

The July 24 registration meeting launching the San Francisco Pool Association's 13th season was a rather dismal scene. We welcomed the addition of Eagle Creek, and the return of the Ramrod and Transfer to our list of sponsoring bars, but were alarmed to learn that we were minus nine sponsors — the addition of three was hardly compensation. The pool league, with 45 teams in Spring '82, fell to 36 last season, and now sinks to an all-time low of 24, discounting the first season when there were 15.

"I don't care how small it gets, as long as it keeps going," was Treasurer Ray Peterson's assessment. Ray speaks for many of us, a hard core of dedicated players, and even though the league is far from folding, the cold fact that our membership has depleted by almost 50 percent in two years is a little

disturbing.

Why did they vanish? Well, let's look at the nine dropouts. The problem with the Village, Castro Station, Daly City Honda/Suzuki, Rainbow Cattle Co., and Park Bowl was simply a lack of player interest. The sponsors were ready, but no teams developed. Another reason is the rules. Many players dislike the rules. Compared to banging the balls around for fun, the SFPA rulebook can look like the billiards equivalent of the Harvard Law Library. "When can we breathe?" a new player once asked after hearing a brief rundown of a few rules.

Of the remaining four dropouts, the Arena and the White Swallow share essentially the same gripe voiced last season by Ambush owner Kerry Bowman: "It used to be fun, but now the players are all so serious nobody's enjoying the game —

they drive away the customers," or words to that effect.

The Academy was, effectively, voted out of the league — a league first — because they discriminate against women, or so the main argument seemed to be. The wording of the measure was that the Academy "could sponsor teams, but the matches would have to be played in an establishment which didn't discriminate against women."

The ninth dropout, the Pipeline, simply isn't there anymore.

The complaint of the White Swallow and Arena is understandable, but what would they suggest be done about it? As we grow we also get more competitive, and the game tends to be less and less a barrel of laughs. Once a team has tasted the thrill of a playoff match, or has seen a trophy won by another team from their bar, perspectives

change. Every stroke becomes important, every win vital. Nobody wants to make that one little miscue that knocks their team down a notch in the standings.

Those who dislike the rules clearly don't appreciate the reasons for those rules. SFPA rules are consistent with tournaments nationwide, the trial-and-error product of literally thousands of games.

THE GOOD NEWS

Fall '84 isn't all bad news, however. We now have two weekly tournaments in Gay bars. The Bear continues its Monday contests (\$2 entry) at 7:30 p.m., and the Cinch, scene of SF's biggest tournaments ever, is again holding tournaments every Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. (\$1 entry). Both bars match the pot to boost the

payoff.

Shrunk though the league is, there are good points. Down to 24 teams, we've gone from the customary four to two divisions, which means that we'll save considerably on our trophy budget. Just ask Lauren Ward and Lisa Duncan how much easier it was to write the schedule with two instead of four divisions — they had it done and printed in record time. And with two divisions, we get to meet half the league during the season. Not only that, your team can make the playoffs even if you finish 6th.

Sure, we'll be smaller, but we'll have just as many tournaments and special events. Wait. We'll have even more. We'll have a booth at the Folsom Street Fair, and we've added a special weekend pool workshop and tournament in Guerneville.

Hey, this is going to be a great season. ■

S.F. TRACK & FIELD

Track Fest

RICK THOMAN

It is less than one month until the San Francisco Track & Field Club presents San Francisco's first track festival, and the entries are already starting to come in.

The meet, scheduled for the Labor Day weekend, Saturday, September 1, will feature runners of all ages and all abilities, competing in standard track and field events that will include an on-the-track 10,000 meters.

The Esprit corporate team, coached by Gay Games multi-medal winner Carmen Morrison, has issued its intent to participate, and meet director Bernard Turner said individual entries are coming in as the meet draws closer.

The meet will be held at McAteer High School in the Twin Peaks neighborhood of San Francisco and will be the only All-Comers meet held in the city this year. Entry forms are now available by writing to SFT&FC, 1015 Castro Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

The host SF Track & Field Club continues to make a name for itself throughout the Bay Area, moving on recently to the All-Comers meets at Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill.

July 21, SFT&FC members Kenny Patterson and Earl Bryant swept through the 100 and 200 meters with a first and second, respectively, in the 100 and dual first place victories in their age groups in the 200. Also competing for the club was Dwayne Isham, who placed first in the 800 meters.

July 28, Bernard Turner led the way with three first place victories in the 100, the 200, and the 400 meters. Turner was an easy winner in the 400, performed well after a slow start to win the 100 meters, and came from behind with a surging finish to take the 200 meters.

Also competing for the club on the 28th, Isham returned against a stronger field in the 800, improving his time and dropping back to a third place finish. Rick Thoman was third in both the 100 and 200 meter dashes.

The team is gearing up for a final meet at DVC this Saturday, then the quartet of Turner, Isham, Bryant, and Thoman will be traveling August 17 to the TAC National Championship Meet in Eugene, Oregon.

For more information regarding the San Francisco Track & Field Club, or the Track Festival, call 821-7674. ■

Tavern Guild Bowling Leagues Schedules

Winter Season 84/85

THURSDAY LEAGUE (TGTBL)

A pre-season meeting will be held on the second floor of Park Bowl on August 13 at 8 p.m., during which teams and individuals can sign up. Those wishing to reserve a team or individual league space prior to this meeting may phone Mal Garcia at 752-2366 after 10 a.m. daily. Also at this meeting, officers and rules will be voted upon.

The official Winter 84/85 Season will start on September 20 at 9 p.m. This time, Park Bowl management has given its guarantee that the league starting time will remain unaltered throughout the season.

Teams will consist of five members plus one sub, if desired. There are openings for both teams and individuals. Teams are requested to obtain a sponsor before the season begins, or, if preferred, make arrangements to sponsor itself. The price per bowler per night (based on five members bowling) will be \$7. In addition to covering the price of lane usage, this amount also includes numerous cash prizes that will be awarded at the end of the season.

WEDNESDAY LEAGUE (TGWBL)

Officers and rules will be voted on at the pre-season meeting to be convened on October 3 at 7:30 p.m. on the second floor of Park Bowl. There are no openings for teams. However, individual spots will be available. Shadow balls commence at 8:30 p.m., with league play starting at 8:45 p.m. Five-member teams; \$7 per bowler per night. This price also includes various season-end cash awards. (23 weeks)

MONDAY LEAGUE (TGMBL)

Pre-season meeting at 7:30 p.m. on October 8, second floor of Park Bowl. Officers and rules voted on. Team spots and individual spots will be available. \$7 per bowler. (22 weeks) Shadow balls commence at 8:30 p.m., with league play starting at 8:45 p.m. ■

SCOREBOARD

JAPANTOWN BOWL COMMUNITY LEAGUES TEAM STANDINGS AND PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

(League Averages are unavailable)

MONDAY COMM. LEAGUE (Week 8 of 16 - as of 7/23/84)		4. Team #10		24	16
1. Play With It, Also!	24	5. 3 Buddha's + 2	24	24	16
2. Dish	24	6. Team #1	23	17	
3. Play With It, Ltd.	23	7. Sticky Buns	23	17	
4. Vagabond	19	8. Pilsner Vultures	21	19	
5. Team #13	17	9. Carolina Gamecocks	21	19	
6. Bow-K	16	10. Kokpit	20	20	
7. Obelisk Crystal Ball	16	11. Taco Tycoons	20	20	
8. Castro Unity Club	14	12. Damaged Goods	20	20	
9. Dead Puppies	13½	13. Stud City	19	21	
10. Team #11	13	14. Lucky Strikes	17	23	
11. Team #12	11	15. Ball Buddys	14	26	
12. Short Circuits	11	16. CB's	12½	27½	
13. Blazers	10½	17. Pinheads II	11	29	
14. R.P.M.	9	18. Team #18	0	40	

13. Bialbers	10 1/2	21 1/2	THURSDAY COMM. LEAGUE			
14. R.P.M.	9	23	(Week 11 of 16 - as of 7/26/84)			
TUESDAY COMM. LEAGUE			1. "Pend-lums"		28	16
(Week 9 of 17 - as of 7/24/84)			2. J.P. Stars & Strikes		27	17
1. Hot Rollers	28	9	3. Pilsner		27	17
2. El Rio Tartarugas	24	12	4. Vagabond		24	20
3. Pinheads	22	14	5. Twin Peaks		23	21
4. Overnights	21 1/2	14 1/2	6. Pendulum 1		22	22
5. Oh Merde!	20	16	7. Rick's Gold Room		19	25
6. Chiquita's Bananas	19	23	8. Team #5		17	27
7. Hopeless	18 1/2	17 1/2	9. Team #10		16	28
			10. Spare Parts		15	29

9. No Wire Hangers	16	20	FRIDAY COMM. LEAGUE	
10. Ms. Fitts	15	21	(Week 9 of 16 - as of 7/27/84)	
11. Rude Prudes	14	22	1. Stella's Starlettes	24 1/2
12. Ethel	14	22	2. Team #1	22 1/4
13. "Trolley" Dolly's	13	23	3. With Colour	18 1/2
14. Daddy's Boys	11 1/2	25	4. Beech - Nuts	18 1/8
WEDNESDAY COMM. LEAGUE			5. Pin-Heads	13 2/3
(Week 10 of 16 - as of 7/25/84)			6. Strange Interlude	13 2/3

Bowling scores compiled by Jerry R. De Young.

G.T.F. TEAM TENNIS

Playoff Teams Shaping Up


With Round Eight of Team Tennis completed July 22, the first three teams in the standings — (1) Community Rentals, (2) Nella/Schmidt Insurance, and (3) Atlas Savings — have made the playoffs. The fight for the fourth and last spot on the playoff roster narrowed to .00025 percentage points between Ivy's and The Bear. Last year's champion, Ivy's, lost to the White Swallow 27-41, and The Bear lost to Roto Rooter 39-43. These two upsets gave Roto Rooter an outside chance of making the playoffs. Gay Sports got its first win of the season by edging the Pilsner Inn 40-38. In what could be a preview of the finals for the championship, Nella/Schmidt Insurance defeated Community Rentals 42-39.

The Standings as of July 22 are:

1. Community Rentals	318	259	.551	59
2. Nella/Schmidt Insurance	318	272	.539	46
3. Atlas Savings	305	267	.533	38
4. Ivy's	284	278	.50533	6
5. The Bear	298	292	.50508	6
6. Roto Rooter	277	293	.486	-16
7. The White Swallow	269	295	.477	-26
8. Gay Sports	251	296	.459	-45
9. The Pilsner Inn	294	362	.448	-68

Note: Numbers in the last column denote games over .500 ■

L. Balmain



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MR. MARCUS

Urbi et Orbi

If you've been watching the "straight" Olympic Games on the tube, you may have spotted a few brothers and sisters in the stands. Butch Freeman left town Monday for L.A., ostensibly to attend the closing ceremonies, but the cognoscenti know he really went down there to continue playing the Ma Bell/PSA Game with his new L.A. friend, Marty. On the other hand, Red Bentzinger of Mister S Products has wisely chosen his current "squeeze" who lives in the Oakland Hills.

The latest Lesbian leather publication, *The Power Exchange*, surfaced last week from Pat Califa's new bailiwick in Richmond Hill, NY. Judging from the first edition, it makes *Drummer*, *Dungeonmaster* and *Hellfire* look like training manuals for *Romper Room*. I'm wondering if Larry Townsend's *Leatherman's Handbook* knows about this group? Anyway, Lesbian S&M enthusiasts can get more info by writing to P.O. Box 527, Richmond Hill, NY 11418. You get a free Lesbian Hanky Color Code card with your subscription. Speaking of publications, Geoff Mains drew a large crowd to the Ambush for the autographing of his new book, *Urban Aborigines* (Gay Sunshine Press). The new tome is the definitive sociological statement on S&M, and available all over town.

Over on Church Street, George Ash and his partner Louis Tenelas opened the doors of their new store, Church Street Faire, a party/gallery/card/flower shop. Mr. Russian River II, Ron Dykstra, served up the bubbly as hordes of people popped in to check out the place. The art work and sculptures of the gifted Ed Parente are on display all this month. Artisans who are interested in displaying their works in the new gallery should call George at 824-7888. The new store is located at 1198 Church St (at 24th).

The reins of power were transferred from Commander Johnny Clifton to Larry Marr as the Golden Gate Troopers celebrated its second anniversary in the patio of the SF Eagle with a dazzling buffet al fresco. We'll all miss John's smiling face and positive attitude. The guiding officers of the Los Angeles-based Black & Tans U/C were on hand for the occasion.

The staff at Chaps bar is all a-flutter celebrating its first anniversary all this week, with a Bartender's Bash on Monday, a big Open Party last night — with the Pigs in Paradise there for its weekly "choir practice" — a party and buffet. It continues into this weekend, but read on.

It's great to be "back home" here at the *Bay Area Reporter* where I started writing this column in September 1971. Lots of new faces around here, but you can bet there'll be no misspelled words or misplaced paragraphs with my pal Tony Lindsey —



Geoff Mains (c.), author of *Urban Aborigines*, at the Walt Whitman Bookshop with Gayle Rubin (l.) and Greg Day, who are both featured in the book. (Photo: Rink)

the world's best typesetter — sitting there smugly with a dictionary that never gets used, he's such a great speller. By the way, Urbi et Orbi means the City and the World.

SPECIFIC TELL AND YELL

As stated earlier, Chaps is celebrating its first anniversary all this week. Tomorrow night (Fri.), the second Annual Leather Daddy Contest takes place. Doors open at 8:30 p.m. and the contest begins at 9 p.m. The \$5 donation benefits the SF Aids Fund, and dozens of leather "daddies" have signed up already. It'll cost you \$1 a vote, with door prizes and drawings throughout the evening. John Kass and Patrick Toner will perform their daring "slave" dance, and Frank Schmidt will be the guest DJ Friday and Sunday nights.

The winner of the Daddy contest will receive \$100 in cash and a chance to compete in the Int'l. Leather Daddy Contest at Chaps on Labor Day weekend. Second place gets \$75 in cash and third place gets \$25. Don't tell anyone I told you, but 'tis rumored that Tina Turner may, repeat may, appear at Chaps on Labor Day weekend. Joe Altman's stunning black and white photos are on display at Moby Dick until August 15 with some hot men on the walls, so don't miss that show. . . . According to the SF Public Utilities Commission Resolution 84-0362-MR, our own Marty Cox was awarded \$15,000 in a settlement from MUNI as a result of an accident he suffered five years ago this month on a bus. . . . Suzy Parker, LA's premiere columnist in *Compass Magazine*

celebrated his 51st birthday last week, but as usual, doesn't remember a thing about the party they had for him at the LA Stud. . . . Last Wednesday, all those gay men who passed the sheriff's exam were honored by the Pigs in Paradise.

This Sunday, the SF Band Foundation is throwing a Souse-of-ze-border Brunch at a Souse-of-ze-Slot Mexican eatery, namely, Don Ramon's, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Later on, and for \$5 more, they'll be blasting out at the Eagle's patio for a beer bust with the FLAG Corps, the Aides de Camp, and the SF Tap Troupe.

Don't tell anybody I told you, but the newest, freshest singing sensation at the Elephant Walk (and sometimes at Sutter's Mill) is Alicia Daniels. In just a few short weeks, she's playing to SRO crowds. She is under the management of Mark (Bubbles) Abramson who is overjoyed by her rapid rise to acclaim. . . . Speaking of women, the largest Lesbian organization in the nation, based here, Bay Area Career Women is planning its big Moonlite on the Bay (for women only) on Saturday, September 8 for \$22 (members) departing from Pier 43½ at 7:30 p.m. sharp. They've got some 900 members, and are still gasping from the success of their Gay Freedom Day Dance at the Hyatt Regency when some 2,000 women showed up and danced until the wee hours. Call 431-5934 for ticket info if you're not a member.

The fifth Annual Golden Dildeaux Awards will be held at the SF Eagle in November, just before Thanksgiving, and the

(Continued on next page)

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MR. MARCUS

(Continued from previous page)

nominations are piling up already. You only need seven nominations to get on the ballot, and SFGDI Prez Jonni Valle is definitely in the running for the Paper Wedding Dress Award—so many marriages. By the way, how's Ludwig these days?

THE DISH JOCKEY

Marty Kiker, who grabbed the Intl. Mr. Leather title in Chicago in 1982, has been living in New Mexico these past few years. He will be arriving for a three-day visit this weekend with his new lover . . . Last Thursday, South of Market's own Emperor II, Russ Higginbotham, blew into town and celebrated his birthday at Febe's . . . It's news to me too, but there's a Flamingo Training School here in the Bay Area. One of my friends is attending classes there, but I didn't even know he owned a flamingo . . . Can anyone tell me why the big S a la Superman logo is no longer in front of Drummer's Studstore on Folsom? I understand one of the big Hollywood movie moguls was in town during the Demo convention, and nearly had a stroke when he saw

. . . Likewise, Tommy Doyle of the 100% Solution has given that cute Bruce Brodnick the heave-ho. But not to worry, Bruce is opening his own t-shirt store in the near vicinity. I think someone ought to throw a pink-slip-party for everyone who's been fired by their Gay bosses, like they do in L.A. The object is not to shame the ones fired, but to shame the Gay bosses who found a better lay for their premises.

It was at the Brig the other night when these two dudes were eye-balling each other's shirts. Dude #1: "I see your plaid shirt is the same color as mine. Mine's called Texas Plum and cost me \$80 at Neiman-Marcus. Dude #2: "Oh yeah? Well, mine cost me \$10 at K-MART and it's called Purple."

The next Bare Chest Contest to name Mr. August '85 on the Arena calendar is tonight beginning at 10 p.m. Are you reading this, Stella Loignan? . . . Too late for this deadline, but the S&M Lesbians of the Bay Area held a "happening" last night at the Oasis, and they imported break dancers and scratchers from New York with Mistress S cracking the whip over the festivities. Stay tuned for photos and a graphic dissertation next week.



George Ash (L.) waits on his first customer at the new party/gallery/card/florist store on 24th and Church Sts. called Church Street Faire. It's also a showcase for budding artists in the community. (Photo: Marcus)

open my front door to find a big, bad badge staring me in the face. Sir: You are not in any of the photos, so please calm down! . . . You're right, that

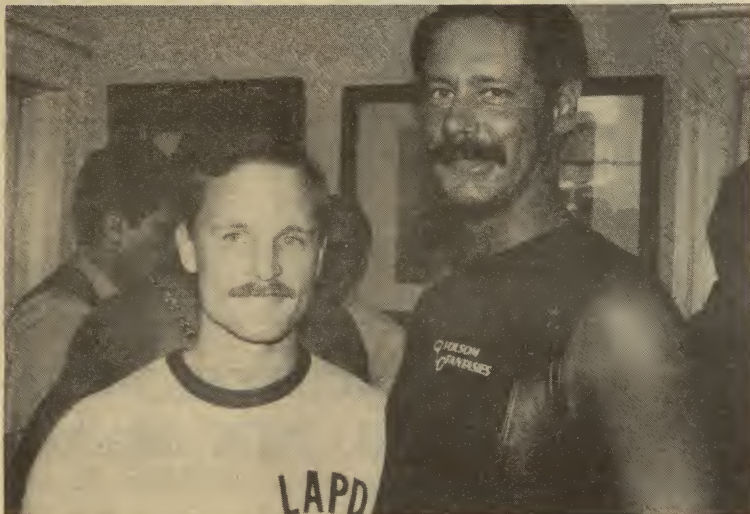
Overheard at the SF-Eagle last Sunday afternoon, David "Stella" Stoll to a hunky customer: "You're so good to me when your husband is out of town," after said customer dropped a \$2 tip for a bottle of Calistoga . . . The culprit who stole the "colors" of The 15 Association from the walls of the Brig during its recent remodeling will be somewhat dismayed to know that the Fifteen's colors will be re-hung there on Sunday, August 12 at a celebration between 1600 and 1900 hours. It will be hung with glue, rivets, alarm system, staples, and a soldering iron. The banner is being paid for by George Benedict,

owner of the Brig, made by Mister S Products, and officiated by the house MC, the dynamic Larry Glover. The rope is being saved for the neck of the thief who stole it in the first place . . .

★ ★ ★

That winds it up for the first issue of the return of the prodigal. Until we meet on these pages again next week, remember: That's the way it is. And most of the time we hope it isn't. See you at the Leather Daddy Contest this Friday night.

Mister Marcus



Butch Freeman (r.) is coordinating the Annual Golden Dildex Awards to be held at the SF Eagle in November. Shown here with Marty Holmes, the Los Angeles-based new "squeeze." (Photo: Marcus)

the registered trade mark hanging so close to Moscone Center.

What's this? It appears Jimmy Stapleton of the Sausalito Inn just couldn't bear all the popularity of Miles Mitchell, and LaMitchell is no longer on the employee roster of that joint

There was this leather dude at the Brig the other week for the fetish and fantasy benefit who thought he was photographed during the festivities. Since he is employed by a "higher echelon" investigative agency a la Federal Government, I was surprised to

was Dan Rather and Ed Bradley at the Oasis during a break in the Demo Convention, and they didn't seem too amused at the proceedings. They should have gone over to the Stud and visited with Jeremy Reinelt if they wanted some real action.

Speaking of action, you never saw such a hasty evacuation as the one that took place at the 21st Street Baths the other night when some "boob" left a smoldering cigarette on his damp mattress. Well! The room clerk was livid. I'll tell you, when everyone rushed out of the place as if a Kansas tornado was on the horizon . . . And which bike club is talking of impeaching its president if he doesn't quit wearing his club overlay to the Boot Camp Club? Incidentally, if you're unemployed and show your employment book at the door of the "Boot," on Wednesdays, they'll let you in free.

Know a better way to "come out" to your parents than on National TV? That's what happened to Vern (NAACP) Stewart when he flashed on CBS News during the Human Rights March holding hands with his current Viennese pastry, Elmar. Shortly after the broadcast, Vern's mother was on the horn from Chicago demanding, "What were you doing on TV holding hands with a white boy in a gay parade?"

BOOK RACK

Reality Check

A Different Love
by Clay Larkin
Alyson Publications; \$4.95

by Paul Reed

Verisimilitude is the critical issue in this romance cum mystery by Clay Larkin. The novel opens with the two central characters—a Gay couple recently moved to San Francisco's Polk Gulch area—consulting their Gay guidebook in an effort to locate a nearby Gay bar to which they might repair for a drink. One of them states that he has never been to a Gay bar before, and so they decide to embark on their little adventure.

As queens are sometimes wont to shriek: Pulease! Who, pray tell, requires a guidebook in San Francisco to locate a Gay bar?

The dialogue suffers a lack of correspondence to reality as well. Nobody constructs sentences like this: "Before that we lived in this hotel on Market Street which wasn't bad or anything, you know, but it sure was, well, kind of grim. But this part of town is neat. We didn't even know this bar was here, until we found it in our Gay guidebook. We can see it out our front window, in fact."

Reality check, please. To think two Gay men whose apartment has a view of a Gay bar right across the street cannot identify it as such without the assistance of their Gay guidebook is to stretch the reader's sense of the real world beyond all reasonable bounds. The area of town to which the character refers as "neat," is along Polk Street, which, throughout the novel, is portrayed as the hot-spot of Gay life in San Fran-

cisco; no Castro Street, no Folsom Street. The correspondence of this book to reality is terribly thin, if that.

The story is simple—a Gay couple moves to San Francisco to escape persecution in Iowa or Idaho or someplace like that. Their newfound friends place bets that soon the two will be broken up by the city's fast-paced, go-get-em lifestyle. And so they do get broken up. At the end of the book, we have a vaguely intriguing section wherein the younger of the two is nearly kidnapped by an eccentric queen, but his true love comes to his rescue. The two are reunited and ride off into the sunset together.

The book is very short, and quite outdated in place and reference. It raises the same question I have asked over and over in my mind about the titles issued by Alyson Publications. Are they giving new writers a chance? Is their publishing program geared towards introducing new Gay writers? Or are they trying to tap a light, entertainment market and failing in the process?

In any case, *A Different Love* misses the mark. I do not like to give such negative notice to something that is, no doubt, Clay Larkin's good and hopeful project. Such criticism is offered in the hope that in future work, these sorts of defects can be avoided. Writing a book is tough work, and even one that misses the mark is a respectable accomplishment.



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Bring in the Clowns

Reflecting on the Reign of Ken and Sable

by Karl Stewart

Sable Clown has been a key figure in the Court System for a few years. Known largely as an entertainer, she ascended to the Grand Ducal throne a year ago, with her husband of state, Ken Wright. Their reign has revitalized not only their crown, but the entire Court System.

The Court System was started 20 years ago by the Tavern Guild, when it dubbed popular drag entertainer Jose "Hostess De San Francisco." A year later she changed the title to Empress. Seven years later, Marcus became the first emperor.

One of the more controversial queens in town took a dislike to the seriousness and adverse politics developing in the Emperor/Empress court, and H.L. Perry founded the Grand Ducal court to restore the fun and camp.

In the years that followed, the Grand Ducks have quacked people up with entertainment, fun, and some pretty vicious political gamesmanship. Sable and Ken have brought validation back to their throne by avoiding these games as their predecessors never could. Their year has been spent concentrating on a lot of entertaining, some good solid fund-raising, and bringing the focus of their reign into proper perspective.

Ken and Sable's Investiture was one of the outstanding events in their year. Designer John Scott set the tone by creating a huge set of the "White House" out of foam core. This won them a Cable Car Award for best theme event.

Next they lent their full effort to Country Christmas, a joint project by all six sets of title holders. This too won a Cable Car nomination. The project was headed by Michael Bow-

man, Mr. Gay San Francisco of the day. Michael is currently running for Grand Duke this year.

Sable is one of the city's finest entertainers. Her limited repertoire is filled with favorites. She propels the art of lip-synch to fine mimicry. Sable doesn't just present the song. She portrays a character presenting the emotions of the music.

One of the most successful fund-raisers was "A Night at Theatre Rhino." The court packed the house to watch Crystal Blaze, the story of a drag entertainer who never fit into Gay life, wasn't accepted by her family, and found solace in a flea bag drag show. It seemed so appropriate to this particular audience.

Sable and Ken both triumph on out-of-town trips. One of Sable's favorites was the lavish Imperial Coronation in Modesto.

"I was delivering 'Send in the Clowns,' and the audience was so touched that there were tears in their eyes," Sable remembers. She went on to observe that when she travels to court, throughout California, she has



Grand Duchess Sable Clown (Photo: Rink)

encountered a special closely knit quality in each city.

"Sacramento was really special, too," she went on. "Their Grand Ducal Coronation was Rick and Remy's (Emperor and Empress of SF) first out-of-town trip, and our whole gang went with us. I just throw it right back to 'em in my performance." She recalled the high point of this experience. "The most intense time was when I did Cats ('Memories') at last year's Grand Duke Coronation at the San Franciscan Hotel. The energy was positively amazing."

Ken's sharp organizational

and financial skills and Sable's incredible ability to entertain made an unbeatable combination this year.

This year's Coronation is being held at Japantown Theater, Saturday August 11 at 7 p.m. Grand Ducal voting will take place that day at Hibernia Beach on Castro Street and in the Polk at Kimo's. Grand Duchess candidates are Sandra Sorrelles and Trixie Trash. Grand Duke candidates are Leonard and Michael Bowman.

Tonight Ken and Sable will reward SF supporters in an In-Town Awards Show at the Rathskeller at 8 p.m. (donat-

tion \$5). Friday (8/10) at 8 p.m. there will be an Out-of-Town Awards Show at 181 Club, also for a \$5 donation.

"I plan to step down and step aside to allow the new Grand Duchess to set her own style," Sable said. "I thank you all for electing me and giving me the opportunity to show a little more of who and what I am . . . for giving so much this year."

The audiences re-affirmed their affection for Sable last weekend at the Mr. and Miss Gay Investiture, where she performed for the first time after being hospitalized from a "fag bashing" on her steps on Leavenworth. The audience lined up 20 deep to tip her and pay homage to one of the greatest Grand Duchesses San Francisco has seen. She and Ken have brought the entire court system from bitch fight to brilliance.

Karl's Calendar

Thursday August 9: In-Town Awards, The Rathskeller (Turk and Polk) 8 p.m., Grand Ducal Council, \$5.

Friday, August 10: Out-of-Town Awards and Show, 181 Club, 181 Eddy, 8 p.m., \$5.

Second Annual Leather Daddy Contest, Chaps, 9 p.m., \$5. First prize=\$100, raffle and door prizes, guest entertainer, benefit for SF AIDS FUND.

Saturday, August 11: VOTE, Grand Ducal Candidates 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Hibernia Beach or Kimo's on Polk St., Trixie Trash or Sandra Sorrelles, Michael Bowman or Leonard.

White Russian Ball, Grand Ducal Coronation, Japantown Theater, 7 p.m., tickets=\$10, \$15, \$20. Available at most popular bars.

Sunday, August 12: Brunch for the Band, Don Ramon's, 225 11th St., \$10. Food and entertainment, no host bar. Hosts Supes Richard Hongisto, Louis Renne and Empress Remy Martin, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Mr., Ms. and Miss Gay Teen Cal Pageant, D.O.K. West, 12889 Garden Grove Ave., Garden Grove, 7 p.m. (call 619-692-1967).

Leather Daddies' Night, Chaps, 8 p.m., party with winners of contest, \$5. Leather door prize, guest performer, benefit SF AIDS FUND.

Tuesday August 14: Gay History Project, Valencia Rose 8 p.m., \$4. Lecturer Allan Berube on "A Political History of Lesbian and Gay Bars in SF."

Wednesday August 15: All Candidate Night, Cowpersons, The Stallion, 8 p.m.

SWEET LIPS SEZ . . .

Of Dukes and Duchesses

DICK WALTERS

Ken and Sable will present A White Russian Ball — harlequins, jesters, mimes, clowns — the crowning of the new Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of San Francisco — Saturday the 11th at the Kabuki Theatre. It starts promptly at 7 p.m. and will be over by midnight. This promises to be a truly "royal" evening, so get your tickets

early.

Jay (Ethel) Noonan, did you know that Ricky Joe collects elephants? What does he mean?

The Venetian Room is again presenting, by popular demand, the one and only Charles Pierce from the 14th to the 26th. If you missed his last show at the Fairmont Hotel, be sure to make reservations to see one of these

coming performances — a knockout.

It's a Boy Voyage Party on Sunday the 19th from 2 'til 6 p.m. at the Hob Nob for Bob (the Mayor of Geary Street) and Woody (the Tomato) and Maureen (Woody's daughter) who are going to Europe for a three-week vacation. Come on down and join in the fun. Bill Ward will be on the piano, and starting on Monday the 20th, replacing the mayor (Bob) on the plank from 6 a.m. 'til noon will be none other than Champagne Jack. We are all going to turn out for that first morning's fun just to get revenge for all the years of harassment from Jack.

The great Morgana King will be at Mame's from the 15th through the 19th. She does a truly fantastic show, and you really shouldn't miss her, especially in this very charming new dining and show room.

Sunday, the 16th of September will be the final performance of the great David Kelsey and Pure Trash. This group has been like an institution at the New Bell Saloon and will be missed, so do try to catch them for their remaining performances. You'll have a job finding another act like this, Boo, but maybe you could have Lincoln and Totie do a fancy Hawaiian number. Only kidding, Russ.

Yes, Dixon will remain at the Mint on upper Market Street now that Bob Shore of the Starlight Room has bought it. But I understand that there are going to be some other drastic, but necessary, changes. Good luck, Bob, on your new venture.

Googie's softball team is having its team dinner this Saturday night at the very popular Chez Mollet, and I know Lenny will make it a memorable dining experience. Thanks for the invite, team.

Michael Winnings of the Twin Peaks, you had better not miss any more hair appointments at the Viking Barber Salon with Helen Trent. Also, Vi, where and how did you get food poisoning? Robbie knows.

Congrats to "Sparkle" of the Kokpit softball team for winning at the Switch Hitters Ball. I understand you were fabulous.

Happy birthday to Greta Grass of the Yacht Club. Her age and waistline are the same — 54 — and to Kenny Allison of the Kokpit, on Wednesday the 15th.



The Four Skins goes '50s at the Endup. (Photo: Rink)



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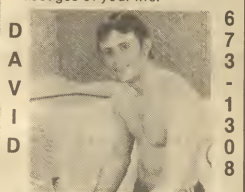
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E37

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Straight-forward exceptionally

handsome guy with a smooth,

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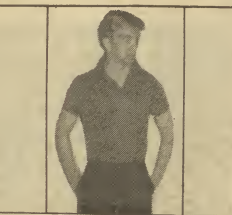
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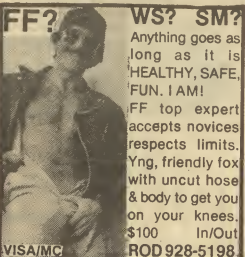
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